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BULLETIN
OF THE
American Schools of Oriental Research
JERUSALEM BAGHDAD

SUPPLEMENTARY STUDIES
Nos. 15–16

A ROMAN-BYZANTINE BURIAL CAVE IN NORTHERN PALESTINE

(The Joint Excavation of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem and McCormick Theological Seminary at Silet edh-Dhahr)

BY
O. R. SELLERS
AND
D. C. BARAMKI

PUBLISHED BY THE
AMERICAN SCHOOLS OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH
(DRAWER 93A, YALE STATION, NEW HAVEN, CONN.)
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EDITORIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

We are happy to present the results of the excavations of the School in Jerusalem at Sîlet edh-Dhahr (also called Silsilet eẓ-Ẓahr) in the central part of the hill-country of Western Palestine as a double number of *Supplementary Studies*. It is expected that this organ will also serve as a medium of publication for other recent minor excavations of the School. The Editor is largely responsible for a regrettable delay in bringing this issue to press. We wish to thank Dean Sellers and the McCormick Theological Seminary for having the cuts in the present issue made without charge to the Schools. Otherwise the cost of engraving so many cuts would have been prohibitive.

The following numbers of the *Supplementary Studies* are now available; Nos. 1 and 4 are out of print:

Nos. 2/3. *The Legend of King Keret: A Canaanite Epic of the Bronze Age.* By H. L. Ginsberg (1946, 50 pp., 2 plates, $1.25). This study has not been antiquated by the progress of research and it contains the only detailed commentary on the text. A few copies are available.

Nos. 5/6. *The Ceramic Vocabulary of the Old Testament.* By James L. Kelso (1948, 48 pp., $1.25). Here we have the best treatment of the pottery of the Bible, on the basis of archaeological study of the material with an analysis of the biblical terminology.

Nos. 7/9. *The Early Arabian Necropolis of Ain Jawan: A Pre-Islamic and Early Islamic Site on the Persian Gulf.* By Richard LeB. Bowen, Jr. (1950, 70 pp., with 24 cuts in the text, $1.75 [$2.00 in boards]). The first publication of the results of excavation in Sa'ûdi Arabia, with chronological control by leading experts.

Nos. 10/12. *The Dead Sea Manual of Discipline: Translation and Notes.* By William Hugh Brownlee (1951, 60 pp., $2.00). With the aid of a number of the foremost specialists on the Scrolls, Professor Brownlee has given a very careful interpretation of this extraordinary historical document, which represents the beliefs and practice of the Essenes in the first century B. C.

Nos. 13/14. *The Qumrân (Dead Sea) Scrolls and Palaeography.* By S. A. Birnbaum (1952, $1.50). A systematic reply to critics of paleographic dating of the Dead Sea Scrolls, it will be found useful as a thoroughly competent introduction to the subject.

Nos. 15/16. *A Roman-Byzantine Burial Cave in Northern Palestine.* By O. R. Sellers and D. C. Baramki (1953, $1.50).

All the above studies may be ordered postpaid from the American Schools of Oriental Research, Drawer 93A, Yale Station, New Haven, Conn.

W. F. Albright

January, 1953

FOREWORD

In the spring of 1949, when the situation in Palestine had become sufficiently stable to allow the resumption of field archaeology, it was desirable that the American School of Oriental Research, Jerusalem, again undertake an excavation. For this purpose I had at my disposal a fund provided by the School and McCormick Theological Seminary. So, in April, inquiry about a possible site was inaugurated. Since my term as director of the School was to expire on July 1, only a small excavation was feasible.

Fortunately we learned of an appropriate site on April 12, when we were being entertained at coffee in the guest house at Silet edh-Dhahr. Mr. Najib Khoury, a graduate of Pittsburg-Xenia Theological Seminary and now a resident of Bethlehem, was guiding my wife and me on a tour of the country between Nablus and Jenin. Our hosts told us that two young men of the village recently, in starting to clear a cave on their property for an animal shelter, had discovered ancient objects. They had stopped the clearing because of the neighbors' objection to the dumping of debris. We made an engagement to see the cave after the Easter season. On April 25, after an excellent dinner in the guest house, we found the cave to be promising in that it contained a mass of Roman-Byzantine sherds (1st to early 7th centuries A. D.). So we decided if possible to dig.

It was necessary to clear two matters before any work could be done. Mr. Khoury procured consent of the owners of the cave and the neighbor on whose ground the debris would be dumped. His brother Mr. Afif Khoury, an attorney in Nablus, drew up the contracts. Then there was the question of a permit. Since the withdrawal of the British Mandate there had been no declared archaeological authority in Arab Palestine, which was now ruled by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Mr. Gerald Lankester Harding, chief curator of antiquities in Jordan and acting director of the Palestine Archaeological Museum, was the logical person to issue the permit and he was willing to do it as soon as the government would give him authorization. The cabinet at that time was busy with important affairs of state. At length, through the patient and persistent work of Mr. Harding and the cooperation of two cabinet ministers, Musa Bey Nassar and Khalussi Bey Kayri, the matter was advanced on the agenda and on June 1 the cabinet authorized Mr. Harding to give the permit. To him we are grateful for his interest and labor in making the expedition possible. Ahmed Bey Khalil, then governor of the Nablus district, also was most cordial and put the facilities of his office at our disposal. So we moved to Silet edh-Dhahr on Sunday afternoon, June 5, and on Monday, June 6, started work. The excavation was completed in two weeks.

A preliminary account of the excavation appeared in *The Biblical Archaeologist,* XII, 3 (Sept., 1949), pp. 56-63.

By a stroke of good fortune I secured the collaboration of Mr. D. C. Baramki, who had served with the Department of Antiquities under the British Mandate for twenty-two years and was well acquainted with

the Roman-Byzantine period. His efficiency and industry and tact with laborers were indispensible in the conduct of the excavation, and a large part of the following report, particularly the study of the lamps, is his. Final responsibility for mistakes and shortcomings in this report, however, is mine.

The staff consisted of six members: I was director; Baramki was archaeological adviser; Najib Khoury was secretary and public relations counsel; Emil Abudaiyeh was our driver and cook; Mahfuz Nassar, formerly with the Palestine Archaeological Museum, was our formatore (pottery mender); Sadiq Mahmud Shurideh, who had worked with the Department of Antiquities and now was living in Silet edh-Dhahr, was our foreman. Omar Abdullah Jibrin, cook at the School, helped greatly in purchasing and assembling needed equipment. Later we used the services of two other former members of the Department of Antiquities: Subhi Muhtadie, surveyor, and Farid Marcos, photographer.

Besides those mentioned above thanks are due to many others. Abu Ahmed Mohammed Said el-Kaffaf, who lived in the guest house, with considerable inconvenience to himself and family, allowed us to use the second floor of his home as headquarters. Mr. Joseph Saad, secretary of the Museum, generously gave us the use of his facilities. These included acetone and celluloid for mending the pottery, photographic equipment, tools, and surveying instruments. Professor J. L. Kelso, my successor in Jerusalem, represented the School in the division of the objects, looked after the packing of those to be brought to America, and attended to the shipping. In America I am indebted to Miss Margaret Thompson and Mr. S. P. Noe of the American Numismatic Society for the identification of the coins; to Professor Erwin R. Goodenough, Professor Oscar Broneer, and Father Edgar J. Smothers for advice about the lamps; to Mr. Igor de Lissovoy and Mr. Donald L. Cooper for photographing some of the objects; to Mrs. Arch N. Wallace for some of the drawings; to Dr. Benjamin Maisler, who gave me many hours and invaluable advice in identifying and dating the pottery; to the University of Michigan and the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, for the courtesy of their librarians; to Dr. Frank M. Cross, Jr., and Professor John H. Young for reading the manuscript and making suggestions; to Professor Herbert E. Youtie for advice about dipinto inscriptions; to Professor Harold Ingholt for information about portrait statues; to Professor Carl H. Kraeling for encouragement and suggestions; to Professor W. F. Albright, editor of the *Supplementary Studies* of the American Schools of Oriental Research; and to the Trustees of the Schools and the Directors of McCormick Theological Seminary for making it possible for me to spend a year in Palestine.

O. R. Sellers

P. S. Attention may further be called to the forthcoming volume on the lamps found in the Agora of Athens by Professor Richard H. Howland of the Johns Hopkins University. In reading our page-proof, Professor Howland calls attention to the new Corinth volume by Gladys Weinberg, devoted to the small finds, which furnishes the latest data on glass and miscellaneous small objects of Roman and Byzantine date.

ABBREVIATIONS

AJA, *American Journal of Archaeology.*

AO III, *Antioch on the Orontes,* Vol. III, *The Excavations, 1937-1939,* edited by Richard Stillwell (Princeton, 1941), article "Lamps" by F. O. Waagé.

AO IV, *Antioch on the Orontes,* Vol. IV, Part One, *Ceramics and Islamic Coins,* edited by F. O. Waagé (Princeton, 1948).

C, *Corinth,* Vol. IV, Part II, *Terracotta Lamps,* by Oscar Broneer (Cambridge, 1924).

D-E, *The Excavations at Dura-Europos, Final Report IV, Part III, The Lamps,* by P. V. C. Baur (New Haven, 1947).

EP, *Excavations in Palestine During the Years 1898-1900,* by F. J. Bliss and R. A. S. Macalister (London, 1902).

G, *The Excavation of Gezer,* 3 volumes, by R. A. S. Macalister (London, 1912).

QDAP, *Quarterly of the Department of Antiquities in Palestine.*

S, *Harvard Excavations at Samaria, 1908-1910,* Vol. I. *Text,* by G. A. Reisner, C. S. Fisher, and D. G. Lyon (Cambridge, 1924).

TN, *Excavations at Tell en-Nasbeh,* Vol. I, by C. C. McCown; Vol. II, by J. C. Wampler (Berkeley and New Haven, 1947).

EXCAVATION OF MUGHARET ABU HALIMEH

Mugharet Abu Halimeh is the name given to a cave at the west extremity of Silet edh-Dhahr, a village in the Nablus district, twenty kilometers north of Nablus on a highway leading to Jenin (Figs. 1, 2,

FIG. 1. Silet edh-Dhahr. The burial cave is in the left center, the opening concealed by trees.

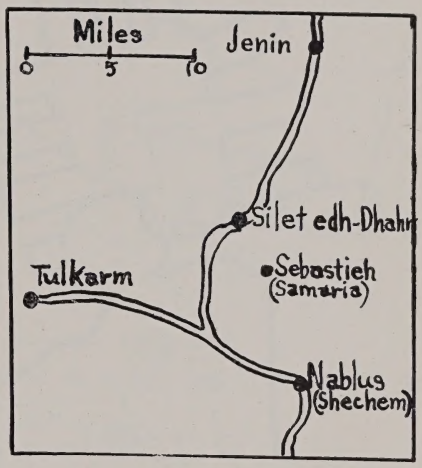

FIG. 2. Location of Silet edh-Dhahr.

FIG. 3. Entrance to the cave.

FIG. 4. The Abu Halimeh brothers, owners of the cave.

and 3). The cave is named after its owners, Mohammed Audi Abu Halimeh and his brother Deeb Mohammed Audi Abu Halimeh (Fig. 4). The brothers were among the workers in the excavation and Mohammed Audi was easily the most productive in finding objects. The antiquities

which they had removed in their earlier clearance of part of the cave filled a large basket. Though these objects appeared to be contemporaneous with those which the cave yielded, none of them was accepted

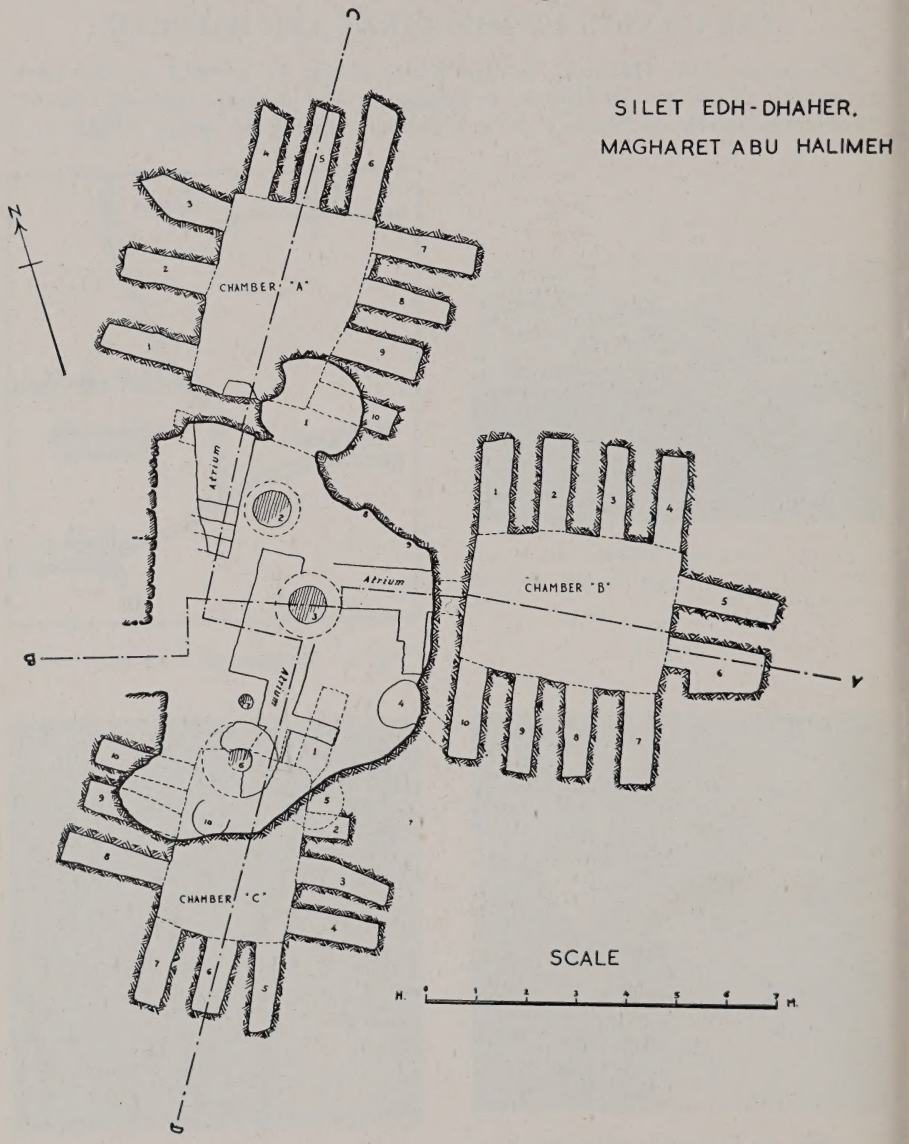

FIG. 5. Plan of the cave. The central portion shows the original natural cave with its silos. The burial chambers are on a lower level, as shown in Figs. 6 and 7.

as a yield from the excavation with the exception of the base of the bust statue (Figs. 15 and 16). The base clearly belonged with the head, which was found well below the surface.

At the beginning of the excavation on June 6, there was a clear space from two to three meters between the floor and the ceiling (Figs. 5, 6, and 7).

Below this the cave was full of earth and stones. Heaps of potsherds, mostly of jars belonging to the 5th and 6th centuries A. D., were stacked against the east wall. Soon after the excavation started another heap

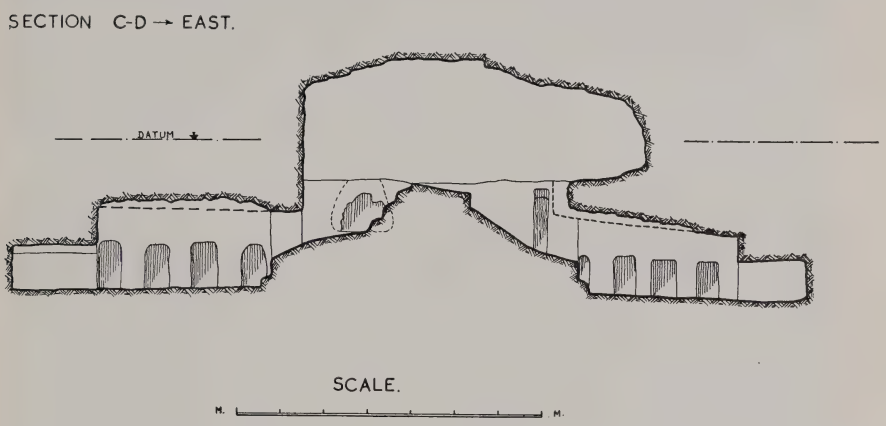

Fig. 6. Section of the cave as indicated by the broken line C-D in Fig. 4. The chambers shown are A and C.

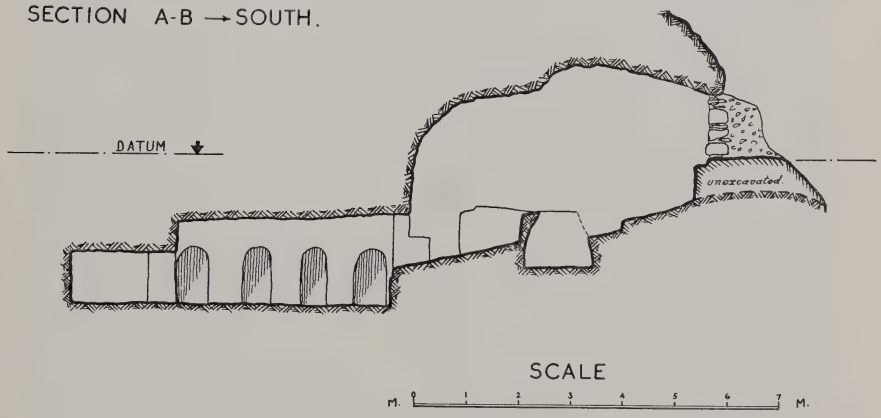

Fig. 7. Section of the cave as indicated by the broken line A-B. The plan shows Silo 3 and Chamber B.

appeared in the middle of the cave under about 15 centimeters of earth. It was possible to reconstruct some jars and cooking pots with their covers from the mass of potsherds (Figs. 8 and 9).

The burial chambers were blocked up and only suggestions of Silos 1 and 4 (Fig. 5) were apparent. A small section of the cave at the southwest corner was partitioned off from the rest of the cave by a crude

stone wall. The detritus here reached within 50 centimeters of the ceiling. Originally the cave must have extended further to the west, but the west part of the roof collapsed and soon afterwards a wall was built to support the friable roof.

Mohammed Audi informed us that in his previous exploration he had entered a chamber on the east side of the cave. So it was decided to start operations in front of the place indicated and at the same time to clear the walled off area at the southwest corner of the cave. The excavations at the east revealed a rock-cut rectangular shaft, which afterwards proved to be the atrium of Chamber B and gave a general idea of the nature of the discovery. The havoc wrought by early looters also became apparent from the chaotic state of the atrium. No less than eighty

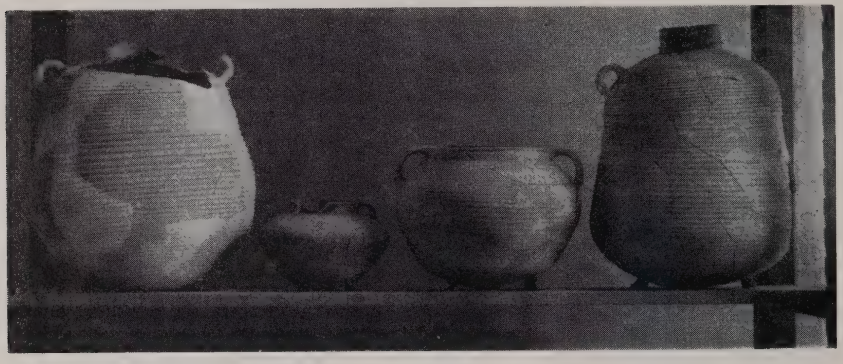

FIG. 8. Byzantine vessels. The two outside jars were assembled from sherds in the middle of the cave. The cooking pot was found in Chamber A, Kok 10.

objects, mostly lamps complete and broken, were found in this shaft. Apparently the looters were seeking more precious objects, and such valueless items as lamps were discarded and thrown pell-mell into the atrium in front of the chamber.

The clearing of the southwest corner proved fruitful, for two lamps (Types VI and XII described below) and a broken glass "tear" bottle were discovered over the heap of earth enclosed in the partitioned area. This suggested the possibility that the persons who built the wall were responsible for the early looting of the tomb chambers.

The original cave is an irregular polygon, roughly semicircular, cut in friable limestone rock, locally known as *ḥuwwar*, resembling chalk. This rock abounds in the vicinity of Silet edh-Dhahr. The tools used in shaping the cave were sharp pointed pickaxes, as indicated by marks clearly visible on the walls and ceilings. There were several niches, probably intended for lamps.

In its general plan the cave resembles many of the Roman-Byzantine burial chambers found throughout Palestine.[1] Our cave is unique in that each of the three chambers contains ten kokim (horizontal burial shafts).

[1] For examples see G III, Plates LVI-LVIII; J. H. Iliffe, "A Tomb at El Bassa of c. A. D. 396," QDAP III (1933), p. 8; S. A. S. Husseini, "A Rock-cut Tomb Chamber at 'Ain Yabrūd," QDAP VI (1936-37), p. 54; N. Makhouly, "Rock Cut Tombs at El Jish," QDAP VIII (1938), Fig. 1, opp. p. 45; B. Maisler, *Beth She'arim* (Jerusalem, 1950), p. 10.

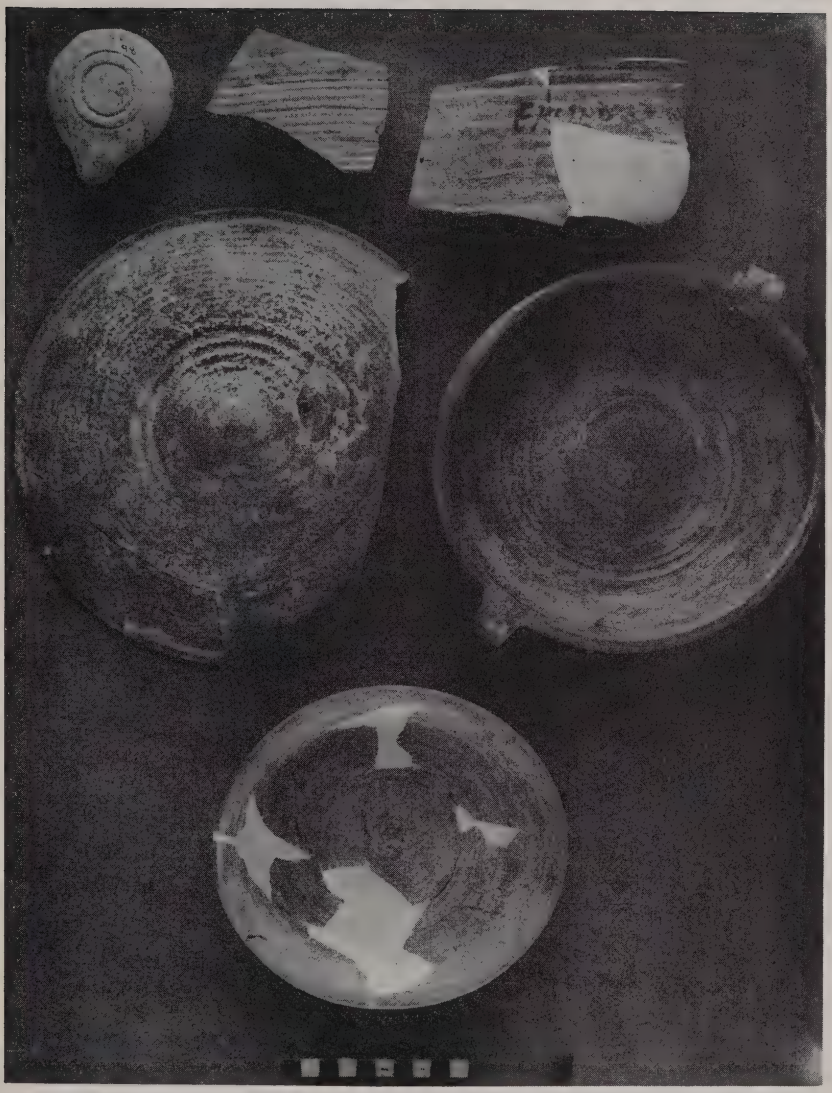

FIG. 9. Miscellaneous pottery. In the upper left corner is lamp No. 98, showing the potter's mark PC on the base. The two sherds at the top are shown more plainly in Fig. 10. In the center are a cooking pot cover and a two-handled shallow bowl. At the bottom is an unribbed bowl assembled from sherds.

The rock is very soft, so that moisture seeps through. Some of the debris was due to dislocations from the ceiling in times past, and during the excavation several slabs fell down. Chamber A with its kokim at the west was penetrated by fig roots coming through the rock. Three live frogs were found in this chamber. Evidently either as eggs or as tadpoles they had come through the small openings made by the fig roots.

The Silos

Dug into the floor of the cave were seven silos (Fig. 5, Nos. 1-7) and what seemed to be the beginnings of three other silos (Nos. 8-10). Silos Nos. 2, 3, 6, and 7 were cut into the open floor, while the others extended into the walls. The west side of No. 1 was connected with Chamber A and the east side of No. 4 led into a small tunnel to Kok 10 of Chamber B. The tools used in cutting the silos, like those used in cutting the cave, were pickaxes. The silos are in the shape of truncated cones with small circular openings at the top, as found throughout Palestine in Iron II sites. A cross section resembles an arch with the top cut off. Silo No. 7 was considerably smaller than the others. Possibly it was used for sesame seeds or it may have been intended to go deeper but was left incomplete. The others probably were intended for wheat and lentils, the two cereals still cultivated intensively in the region. Except for the objects found in No. 1, enumerated below, and some sherds and animal bones found in No. 3, the silos contained nothing but earth and stones; thus they appear to have been filled deliberately when the cave was converted into a cemetery.

Contents of the Upper Cave [2]

From the middle of the upper cave came an abundance of sherds from large ribbed jars and smaller vessels. With some of the sherds it was possible to reconstruct whole vessels or distinctive parts of vessels. They were mostly large ribbed jars characteristic of the Roman-Byzantine period. The lack of stratification makes exact dating impossible. Complete or almost complete vessels were a cooking pot cover (Fig. 9, left center; Fig. 30, No. 16), a plain bowl without ribbing (Fig. 9, bottom; Fig. 30, No. 15); fragments of a shallow bowl (Fig. 17, No. 310); and two large ribbed jars (Fig. 8, left and right). With time and patience it would have been possible to assemble some more jars and pots, but doubtless they would have shown no unique types. There were two sherds with dipinto inscriptions (Figs. 9, above and 10), but only a few characters were legible. One inscription is very faint; the other begins with ΕΚ.[3]

[2] Arabic numerals in the photographs generally indicate the designations in the expedition record book. The height of the numbers for reconstructed objects is not an indication of when they were found; they were not sufficiently restored to be recorded until the end of the excavation. Lamps are described in the later section on lamps. Roman numerals refer to types in the classification. In the line drawings and the pictures of rings and coins the Arabic numerals refer only to the positions of the objects in the illustrations.

[3] Professor Youtie writes: "Jar-inscriptions tend to be tantalizingly short, full of abbreviations, and generally cryptic. They consist of names, dates, and contents of jars, sometimes only one of these elements, sometimes more." Similar inscriptions, but none identical with ours, are shown in *Hesperia* XVIII (1949), p. 152, Pl. 16.

From the area partitioned off at the southwest corner came two lamps (Types V and XIII) and three glass " tear " bottles—two without necks and badly broken and one complete (Fig. 11, No. 72). Objects in Silo 1 were two lamps (Types IV and V) and a bronze loop with a thickness of 0.4 cm. and diameter of 2.9 cm.

The Burial Chambers

Three quadrilateral shafts were cut in the floor of the cave to serve as atria to the three burial chambers which branch off the north, east, and south sides of the cave (Fig. 5, 6, and 7).

Fig. 10. Two inscribed sherds. Youtie describes the upper inscription as " reasonably clear but definitely cryptic. . . . It looks as if the owner of the jar was using a code of his own." The inscriptions looks like KK, followed by an uncertain character, not *θ*. In the lower one Youtie suggests *εκ*, followed by a curve representing an abbreviation, then *ινδ*, followed by scattered and faded ink which " may or may not be the remnant of a numeral, perhaps *δ* or *ζ*." He suggests two possibilities: *ἐκ( ) ἰνδ(ικτίονος)δ*, i. e., " something or other of the 4th indiction "; and *ἔκ(τηs)ἰνδ(ικτίονοs)*, i. e., " the 6th year of the indiction cycle."

Chamber A

The atrium of Chamber A was cut in front of the north wall of the cave. In cutting the east side of the atrium the diggers broke into Silo No. 2. The descent to the burial chamber has three steps and then a steep slope to the entrance. To the west of the atrium a vertical groove was cut to hold the rolling stone, with which the door was blocked after a burial. This stone we found *in situ*.

Inside the entrance is a drop of 78 cm., relieved by a step below the entrance (Fig. 12). The quadrilateral chamber contains ten kokim, three cut into the west wall, three in the north, and four in the east (Fig. 13). The tools used in cutting this chamber were flat blades,

FIG. 11. Glass bottles. No. 45 is at the left of the second row.

6 cm. in width. Apparently the southeast corner of the chamber was cut below Silo No. 1, the floor of which collapsed at a later date (Figs. 5 and 12). No doubt looters used this second means of access. Discovery of the stone door *in situ* raised hopes of finding an undisturbed burial; but these hopes were dissipated when we saw the ray of light coming through the floor of Silo 1.

FIG. 12. Entrance to Chamber A, showing steps from the door to the floor. Above is the opening from Silo No. 1. At the lower left is Kok 10.

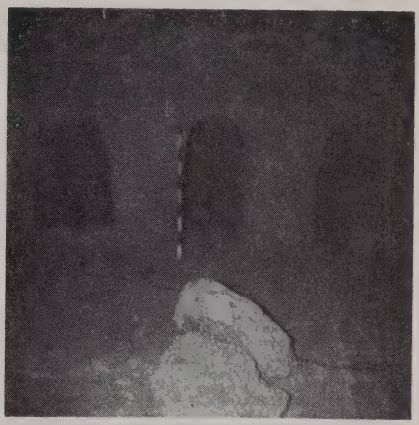

FIG. 13. Chamber A, Kokim 4, 5, and 6.

FIG. 14. Coins found in the cave. 1, Constantine; 2, Arcadius; 3, Justinus I.

CONTENTS OF CHAMBER A

Atrium

Twelve lamps: 1 Type II; 5 Type III; 2 Type IV; 2 Type V; 1 Type VI; 1 Type XIII.
Memorial coin of Constantine the Great (minted 337-339 A. D.). Diam. 1.2 cm.; wt. 0.69 gm. (Fig. 14, No. 1).[4]

Ob. Constantine, veiled head, facing right.
Re. Equity turned to left, holding staff in the right hand and the left enveloped in her clothing. IVST. VEN. MEM.

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[4] Henry Cohen, *Description Historique des Monnaies*, Vol. VII, p. 265, No. 313 (Paris, 1888).

Head in soft limestone (Figs. 15 and 16). Ht. 16 cm.; width 6.3 cm. The lower part of the bust had been discovered by the cave owners before the excavation. It was purchased from them and attached to the head. The identity of the person portrayed is unknown. The features, particularly the eyebrows, indicate femininity, but the short haircut and flat breasts indicate a young man. Possibly the bust represented a Roman person buried in the cave. So far as we know, this head is unique in Palestine[5] The decapitation and smashing of the nose may have been due to Christian iconoclasm.

Fig. 15. Head in soft limestone. The head proper was found in the excavation. The lower part of the bust had been found by the owners in their earlier exploration.

Fragments of a bronze plaque with circles. Length 2.5 cm.; width 1.3 cm. (Fig. 19, center of second row; the small circles appeared when the fragment was cleaned).

[5] Busts found in a domed tomb at Sebastya are shown by R. W. Hamilton, QDAP VIII, Pl. XL. Some statues of females are shown by M. Avi-Yonah, "Oriental Elements in Palestine Art," QDAP X, pp. 105-151, particularly pp. 112-121, Pls. XXII, 4-6; XXIII, 9-11; XXVI, 5-6. More than 200 portrait heads of statues now in European museums, 3rd-5th centuries A. D., are shown by H. P. L'Orange in *Studien zur Geschichte des spätantiken Porträts* (Oslo, 1933). They are all males and their masculinity is unmistakable.

Interior of Chamber A

Four broken lamps not sufficiently complete to be classified. Twenty-seven lamps: 4 Type I; 1 Type II; 2 Type III, 7 Type VI; 1 Type IX; 1 Type X; 5 Type XIII; 6 Type XV.
Four glass tear bottles: one (ht. 9.3 cm.; diam. 7.1 cm.) shown in Fig. 11, No. 335; the other three, two broken and one complete, similar to No. 219.
Small pottery jar, reddish buff; ht. 15.2 cm.; diam. 7.3 cm. (Fig. 17, No. 330, upper right corner; Fig. 30, No. 17). This is a 1st century A. D. type.[6]
Blue glass bead. Length 1.8 com.; diam. 2.3 cm.
Iron fragment, 6.3 x 3.3 x 0.8 cm.

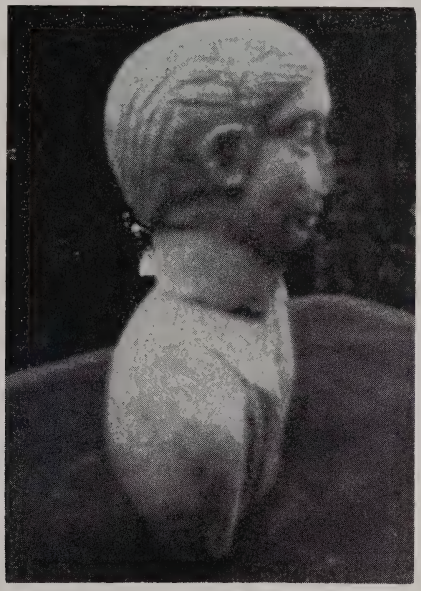

Fig. 16. Profile of limestone head.

Kok 1

Fragment of pottery lamp.
Glass bottle. Ht. 6.9 cm.; diam. 5.3 cm.

Kok 6

Cluster of iron nail heads, each 1.8 cm. long and with head 1.8 cm. in diam. (Fig. 19, No. 357).

Kok 7

Pottery bowl, broken, reddish buff. Ht. 4.5 cm.; diam. 8.7 cm.

Kok 8

Fragment of lamp.

Kok 9

Three lamps, Type XIV.
Pottery bowl, reddish buff, with two handles. Ht. 5.8 cm.; diam. 20 cm. (Fig. 9, right center; Fig. 30, No. 7).

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[6] For similar jars see E. L. Sukenik, "The Earliest Records of Christianity," AJA LI, 1947, p. 359, Pl. LXXXV, B, 3; *Journal of the Jewish Palestinian Exploration Society*, 1934-35, pp. 24, 70, 72. In the 1951 campaign at Herodian Jericho James B. Pritchard found a cache of 122 such jars, shown in BASOR 123 (Oct., 1951), p. 15.

Fig. 17. Pottery, metal, and glass objects.

FIG. 18. Bronze socket for lock after cleaning.
Shown uncleaned in Fig. 17, No. 182.

FIG. 19. Bone and metal objects. The coins and rings are shown also in Figs. 14 and 24.

Kok 10

Cooking pot. Ht. 30 cm.; diam. 26 cm. (Fig. 8, right center; Fig. 32, No. 6).

Chamber B

The atrium of Chamber B slopes down gently to the entrance of the chamber. In digging this atrium the workers took care not to break into the side of nearby Silo No. 3, possibly because of the lesson learned

Fig. 20. Entrance to Chamber B. The groove at the right held the rolling stone which sealed the entrance.

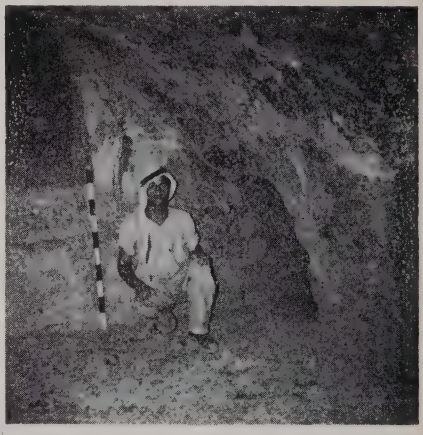

Fig. 21. Entrance to Chamber B from within. Kokim 1 and 2 at the right.

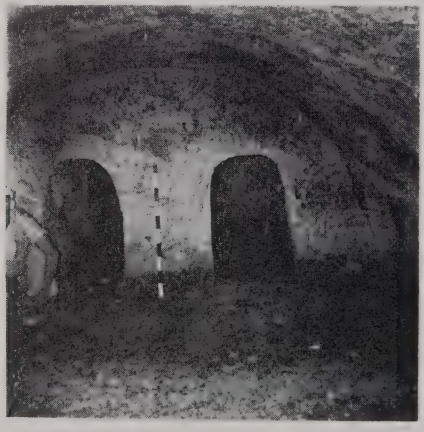

Fig. 22. East wall of Chamber B with Kokim 5 and 6. Note the arched ceiling.

from Chamber A and Silo No. 1. Later, however, the rock between the atrium and Silo No. 3 did break off, thus accidentally making the connection.

On the south side of the entrance there was cut a wide, deep groove for the rolling stone to close the entrance after a burial (Fig. 20). This

stone had been removed before the excavation. Nearby was a rectangular stone; but it was considerably smaller than the entrance. It may have been used to seal one of the kokim inside the chamber.

From the entrance to the floor of the chamber there is a drop of 70 cm. (Fig. 21). The chamber, roughly rectangular in ground plan, contains ten kokim, four cut in the north wall, two in the east, and four in the south. Kok 6 is a "double kok." The ceiling of this chamber is arched, as are the tops of the kokim (Fig. 22), while in Chambers A and C the patterns are more rectangular.

In the debris were many pieces of flat stone, with which the kokim had been sealed. All had been broken, probably by the tomb looters. The detritus sloped from west to east. While Kokim 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 showed evidence of recent as well as ancient looting, the debris in Kokim 1, 2, 9, and 10 indicated that these had not been rifled recently. At the east end of the chamber there was a heap of red earth, which no doubt had been drawn from the kokim at the time they were rifled. In this heap were found human bones and many objects which originally had been deposited with the corpses: bronze crosses, beads, pendants, fibulae, and a piece of gold leaf. In Kok 9, which had not been rifled recently, were two skeletons, complete with skulls, lying side by side.

Both in the kokim of Chamber B and in front of them was a considerable amount of humus, caused by the decay of the bodies and apparently wooden coffins which had been deposited there. The other two chambers showed no such amount of humus.

Contents of Chamber B

Atrium

Sixty-three lamps: 1 untyped; 1 fragmentary; 1 Type III; 1 Type VII; 2 Type VIII; 8 Type XIII; 3 Type XIV; 46 Type XV.

Eight glass tear bottles, all broken, two permitting partial restoration (Fig. 11, Nos. 45 and 46).

Small two-handled amphora, pottery, pinkish buff; one handle broken; design on one shoulder. Ht. 8.6 cm.; diam. 6.6 cm. (Fig. 17, No. 22; Fig. 31, No. 2).

Vase, pottery, slender, ribbed, pinkish buff; top broken off. Ht. 15.5 cm.; diam. 6.0 cm.

Interior of Chamber B

Sixty-six lamps: 3 fragmentary; 2 Type III; 2 Type VI; 1 Type VII; 1 Type VIII; 2 Type IX; 2 Type X; 6 Type XII; 12 Type XIII; 1 Type XIV; 34 Type XV. There were also fragments of five multi-nozzled lamps (Fig. 60).

Four glass beads, one on a bronze wire.

One bead made from a seed.

One stone bead on a bronze loop (Fig. 23, No. 133).

(Apparently Chamber B was the latest of the three chambers. It contained a comparatively large number of metal objects.)

Iron ring. Diam. 2.7 cm.

Iron finger ring with bezel (Fig. 23, No. 123).

Four fragments of iron bracelets. Diam. of pieces 0.55 cm.

Iron key, S-shaped. L. 6.1 cm.; w. 3.2 cm.

Five fragments of iron nails or keys.

Iron nail with turned head. L. 6.3 cm.; diam. 0.8 cm.

Many small pieces of iron too fragmentary for identification.

Two fragments of bronze pins.

FIG. 23. Small objects of metal and stone.

Bronze pin. L. 8.9 cm.; diam. 0.4 cm.

Bronze cross, with loop on top for suspension, piece of glass in round socket at crossing of arms. Ht. 5.1 cm.; width of arm 3.2 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 121).

Two bronze crosses with suspension loops. Ht. 4.0 cm.; width of arms 2.2 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 126).

Fragments of bronze bracelet.

Bronze loop. Diam. 3.4 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 120).

Bronze button. Ht. 1.3 cm.; diam. 2.5 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 124). When cleaned this button showed a decoration of incised concentric circles.

Nine bronze finger rings, complete or broken, five with bezels. Three of the bezels when cleaned showed interesting designs (Fig. 19, second row, unnumbered; Fig. 24). One shows a knight with halo and cross-hilted sword. It has been suggested that this is St. George. A similar design of a knight with halo was found by Makhouly on a pendant at El Jīsh (QDAP VIII, p. 49, Pl. XXXII). There the knight is spearing a fallen enemy. Our second bezel has a design which, if the St. George identification is correct, may represent the dragon. The third represents a lion. A similar lion is on the bottom of the El Jīsh pendant.

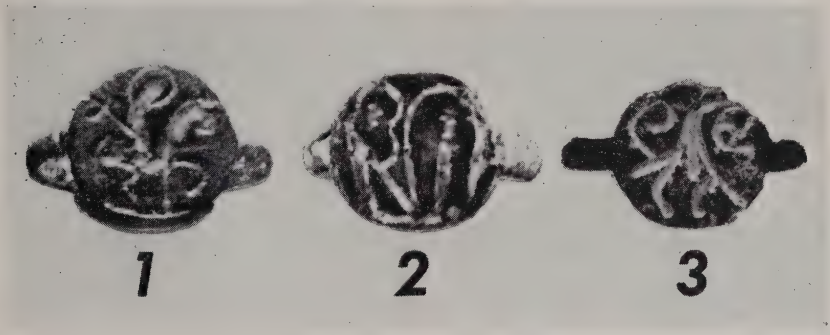

Fig. 24. Three bronze rings magnified. 1, a haloed knight; 2, a dragon(?); 3, a lion.

Bronze ear spoon, broken. L. 3.4 cm.

Bronze spatula. L. 15.9 cm.; diam. 0.5 cm. (Fig. 17, No. 216).

Bronze disk. Diam. 2.6 cm.

Fragments of bronze wire.

Bronze tube, cylindrical. L. 27 cm.; diam. 1.3 cm.

Bronze coin of Arcadius (378-408 A. D.), mint of Cyzicus. Diam. 1.6 cm.; wt. 0.69 gm. (Fig. 14, No. 2).[7]

Ob. Bust of Arcadius facing right. DN ARCADIUS P F AVG.

Re. VOT V in two lines with a wreath. Below mint mark of Cyzicus: SM KA (or Δ).

Bronze coin of Justinus I (518-527 A. D.). Diam. 3.2 cm.; wt. 14.68 gm. (Fig. 14, No. 3).[8]

Ob. DNIVSTI NVSPPAVE. Bust of Justinus I, beardless, wearing diadem, cuirass, and paladium (much of which does not show).

Re. Large M with star on left, cross on right, cross above.

Bottom of glass tear bottle. Ht. 3.6 cm.; diam. 4.7 cm.

Neck of glass tear bottle. L. 9.2 cm.; diam. 4.4 cm.

Piece of gold foil, pyramidal, 1.7 x 1.3 cm. This may have been the cover of a nail-head (Fig. 25).

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[7] U. Sabatier, *Description Générale des Monnaies Byzantine*, Vol. I, p. 98 (Paris, 1862).

[8] *British Museum Catalogue of Byzantine Coins*, Vol. I, Pl. 3, No. 5; p. 4, No. 29 (London, 1908).

Kok 1

Iron nail. L. 5.4 cm.
Fragment of wood with bronze clamp attached. 6.8 x 5.5 cm.
Small pot in fragments.

Kok 2

Three lamps: Types VII, XII, and XV.
Bronze clamp. 3.4 x 1 cm.
Bronze hook. L. 2.1 cm.
Bronze bracelet. Diam. 3.5 cm.; thickness 0.35 cm. (Fig. 19, No. 237).
Pot with broken neck. Ht. 7.5 cm.; diam. 3.4 cm. (Fig. 17, No. 236; Fig. 31, No. 3).
Glass bottle. Ht. 6.0 cm.; diam. 4.5 cm. (Fig. 11, No. 229).
Glass bottle with neck missing. Ht. 7.2 cm.; diam. 7.8 cm.

Kok 3

Fragment of bronze spatula. L. 4.2 cm.; width 1.0 cm.

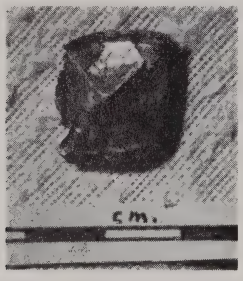

FIG. 25. Piece of gold foil.

FIG. 26. Stone cup for paint.

Kok 5

One lamp, Type XV.
Bronze bracelet. Diam. 4.8 cm.; thickness 0.3 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 233).
Bronze ring. Diam. 2.7 cm.; width 0.4 cm. (Fig. 19, No. 234).

Kok 6

Black glass bracelet. Diam. 6.6 cm.; thickness 0.7 cm. (Fig. 17, No. 238).
Black glass bracelet. Diam. 5.4 cm.; thickness 0.4 cm. (Fig. 17, No. 240).
Fragment of bronze bracelet. Diam. 5.8 cm.; thickness 0.4 cm.
Broken bronze bracelet. Diam. 4.2 cm.; thickness 0.4 cm.
Bronze pin. L. 6.0 cm.; thickness 0.3 cm.
Several bronze fragments.
Fragment of iron. L. 2.8 cm.; thickness 1.0 cm.
Fragment of iron bracelet.

Kok 7

Bronze bracelet. Diam. 4.0 cm.; thickness 0.4 cm.

Kok 8

Bone pin. L. 9.2 cm.; diam. 0.5 cm. (Fig. 19, No. 279).

Kok 9

Three lamps: 1 Type III; 2 Type XIII.
Small stone rectangular cup for paint. L. 10.10 cm.; width 7.0 cm.; ht. 3.4 cm. (Fig. 26).
Three fragments of iron rings.
Broken glass bottle.

Kok 10

Four lamps: 1 Type I; 3 Type XV.
Glass bottle. Ht. 7.7 cm.; diam. 3.3 cm.; diam. of neck 0.9 cm. (Fig. 11, No. 295).
Broken glass tear bottle.
Three small glass beads.
Stone button. Diam. 2.5 cm.; ht. 1.1 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 258).
Ivory pin with three loose rings and one fixed ring carved under the head. L. 10.1 cm.; diam. of head 0.8 cm. (Fig. 19, No. 252).

Chamber C

The shaft in front of Chamber C seems to have created some difficulties for the diggers. They started cutting the shaft in the middle of the cave between Silo No. 2 and Silo No. 1, breaking into Silo No. 3. For some reason they changed their plan and cut another shaft immediately south of Silo No. 3 and adjoining the abandoned shaft. The atrium slopes steeply to the entrance of the chamber. East of the entrance is the usual groove for the rolling stone. This stone was not found. Inside the entrance is a step (Fig. 27).

Fig. 27. Entrance to Chamber C from within.

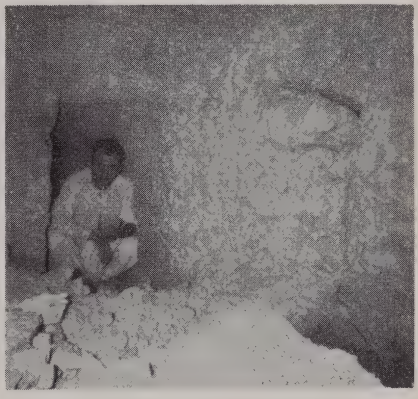

Fig. 28. Southwest corner of Chamber C. Kok 7 (open) and Kok 8 (closed).

The chamber is roughly rectangular and contains the usual ten kokim: one on the north side between the entrance and the east wall and three on each of the other sides. The number ten seems to have been a desideratum, even at the sacrifice of symmetry. Kok 2 was not completed and Kokim 1 and 8 were found blocked by rough stones (Fig. 28). Since very few objects were found in these kokim, presumably the blocking was done in comparatively recent times.

Part of the chamber, the northwest corner, was cut below Silo No. 6, the floor of which collapsed at a later date.

Contents of Chamber C

Atrium

In the atrium proper there were only two lamps: Types II and VI.

Twenty-one lamps were found in the upper (abandoned) atrium: 3 Type I; 3 Type II; 2 Type VII; 1 Type X; 8 Type XIII; 1 Type XIV; 3 Type XV.

Interior

One lamp, Type II.
Iron nail head. Ht. 5.8 cm.; diam. 0.8 cm.
Two pieces of bronze chain and a ring with diam. 2.7 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 262).
Bronze cotter pin (Fig. 23, No. 263).

Kok 1

Bronze chain. L. 5:7 cm.; thickness 0.6 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 266).
Bronze cotter pin, broken.

Kok 2

One lamp, Type I.

Kok 4

Iron nail in two fragments. L. 7.3 cm.
Part of bronze chain. L. 1.7 cm.

Kok 6

Two bronze rings with iron pieces attached. Diam. of rings 2.2 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 275).
Bronze socket for lock (Fig. 17, No. 182; Fig. 18). When cleaned this showed a decoration of incised lines.

Kok 7

Bronze censer handle. L. 7.3 cm.; diam. 5.7 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 276. A similar handle, undecorated, is shown in G III, Pl. XCV, No. 8).
Three bronze cotter pins, one with chain attached. (Fig. 23, No. 281).
Fragment of bronze chain (Fig. 23, No. 278).
Bronze disk with holes for nails and key. Diam. 8.1 cm. (Fig. 17, No. 283).
Bronze fibula. L. 6.6 cm.; diam. 3.3 cm. (Fig. 23, No. 284).
Two bronze tacks. Ht. 2.0 cm.; diam. 1.5 cm.
Bronze ring. Diam. 2.2 cm.
Three iron nail heads.

Kok 8

Bronze tack head. Diam. 1.5 cm.
Bronze ring. Diam. 2.1 cm.; thickness 0.5 cm.
Two bronze cotter pins.

Kok 10

Fragment of pottery lamp.
Glass tear bottle. Ht. 10.0 cm.; diam. 2.9 cm.
Broken iron key. L. 3.4 cm.

Pottery

Besides the lamps and a few whole vessels recorded, there was an abundance of sherds in the cave. Most of these sherds were from large jars or cooking pots of the Roman-Byzantine type found in the upper part of the cave (Figs. 8 and 9). There were, however, some sherds from smaller and more delicate vessels. These were prevailingly Byzantine, though a few were Roman like those dated elsewhere as 1st century A. D. (Fig. 29, Nos. 1 and 2). Some of the fragments were sufficiently complete to provide for the reconstruction of the entire objects—dishes, plates, bowls, jars, and a cooking pot cover (Figs. 30, 31, and 32).

Fig. 29. Distinctive pottery. Pieces 1 and 2 are "Samian" ware or terra sigillata, probably 1st century (See J. H. Iliffe, "Sigillata Wares in the Near East," QDAP V, pp. 4-40; and, for example, G. and A. Horsfeld in QDAP IX, pp. 120, 129; PL. X, 36, 37, 38; PL. XVI, 83, 86). The cross decoration on No. 8 was also on one of the bowls (Fig. 32, No. 3). Maisler found a similar design at Beth She'arim. At Antioch on the Orontes were a number of sherds with this decoration, classified by Waagé as Late Roman B and Late Roman C (AO IV, Part One, Figs. 30, 31, and 34). The date of this decoration is 4th-6th century. Other pieces are Roman-Byzantine.

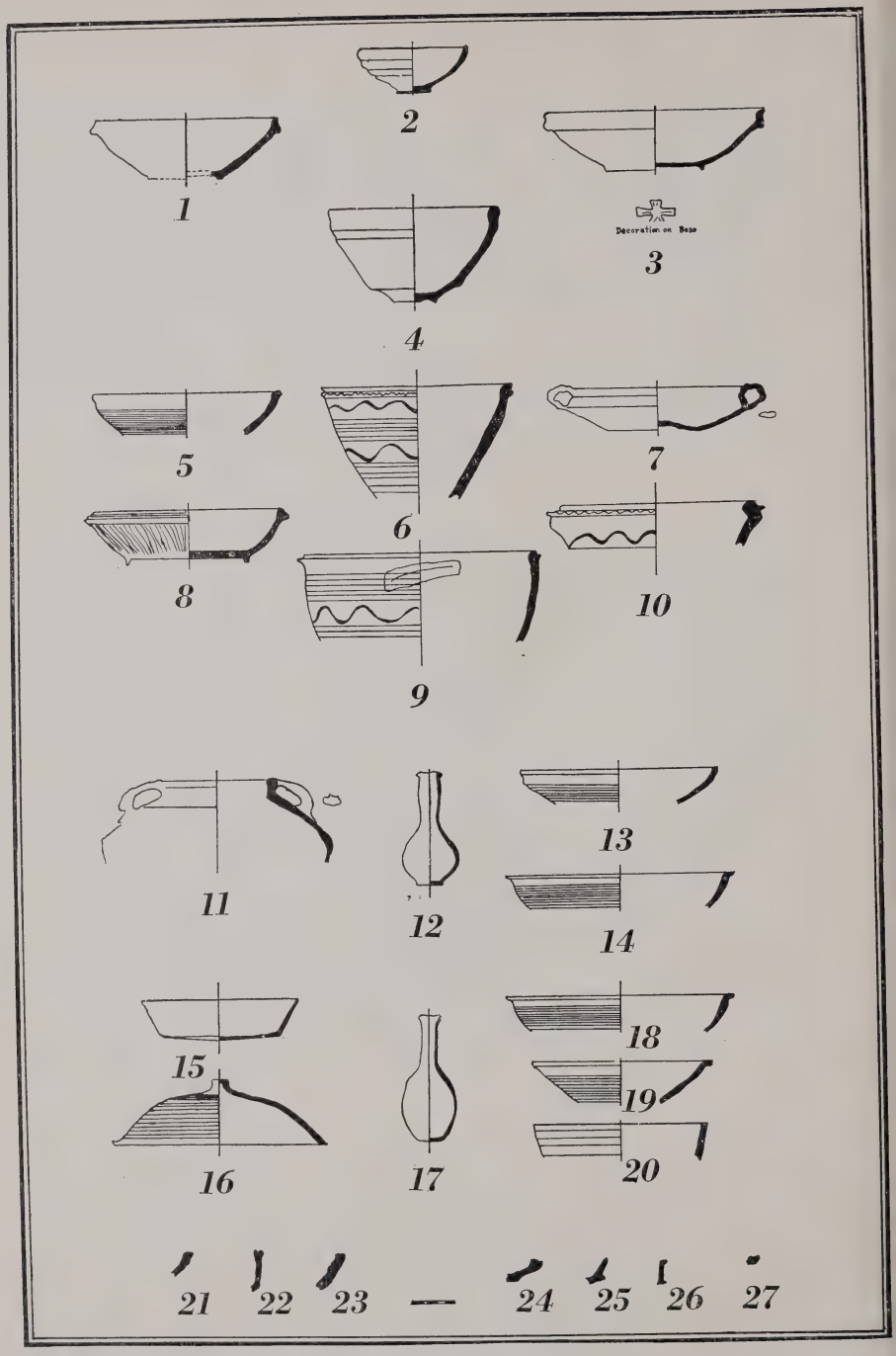

FIG. 30. Pottery forms, mostly based on fragments. Nos. 7, 15, and 16 are vessels shown in Fig. 9. No. 17 is the Herodian jar shown in Fig. 17, No. 330. Nos. 21-27 are rims found in different parts of the cave.

In general the pottery corresponded with the lamps and the glass and metal objects. A little of it seemed to be Herodian, which does not necessarily mean that it was deposited in the cave in the time of Herod. Most of the pottery came from the 4th-6th centuries.

History of the Cave

Obviously the cave once was a granary of some local magnate. Probably there was a natural opening which was enlarged to make the

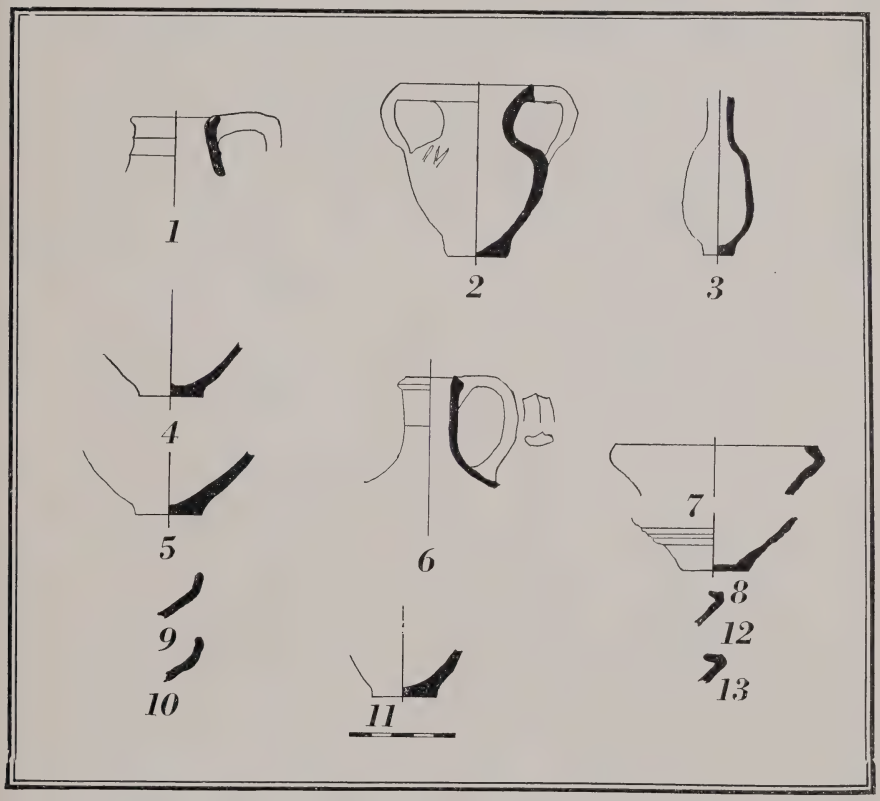

Fig. 31. Pottery forms. Nos. 2 and 3 are Nos. 22 and 236 in Fig. 17.

granary. The silos suggest the Iron II pattern, though they may be Hellenistic. Nothing of a pre-Roman date was found in them.

In the Roman period, probably in the 1st century A. D., the more prosperous members of the adjoining community decided that the location was suitable for a burial chamber and dug Chamber A. All the earliest objects except a few Roman lamps were found in this chamber or the atrium leading to it. A short time later Chamber C was constructed. Considerably later, in Byzantine times, Chamber B was added. Here burials continued until the Arab invasion in the 7th century.

Undoubtedly lamps played an important part in the burial services and possibly the breaking of jars was included in the ceremonies.

In subsequent centuries various groups of squatters occupied the cave and it was looted. To one of these groups may be attributed the wall across the entrance of the cave and the wall screening off the southwest corner. They brought in Arab lamps to give light as they rifled the

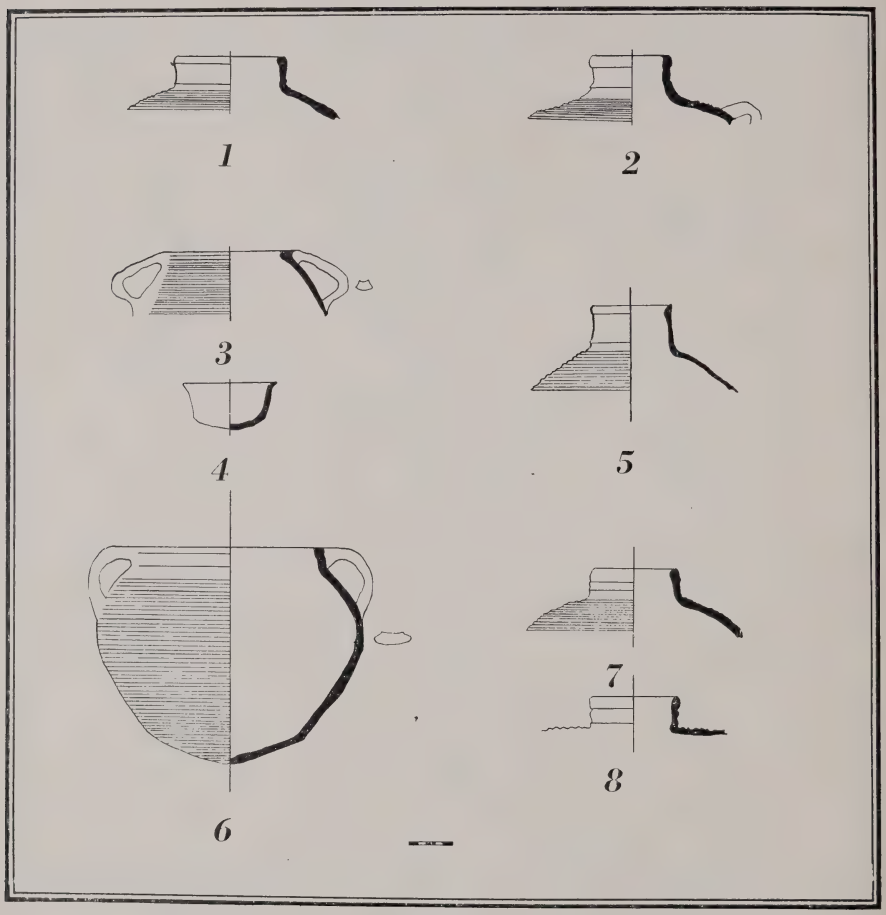

Fig. 32. Representative forms of the Roman-Byzantine age. With the exception of No. 6, which was found in Kok 10 of Chamber A, these objects were found in the middle of the cave. The photograph of No. 6 is shown in Fig. 8.

tombs and may be responsible for some of the jars and cooking pots found in the upper part of the cave. It is difficult to fix the exact date of these rough vessels.

Eventually falling rock obscured the entrance of the cave and it was forgotten until the Abu Halimeh brothers thought of clearing it late in 1948.

It would seem that after Constantine's conversion the area became

Christian. Whether there was a period of Jewish participation is doubtful. Nothing distinctly Jewish was found in the excavation. The earliest candlestick lamps, which have a Jewish origin, may have been purchased from Jewish potters; but Christian potters adopted the design and by cross decorations or pious inscriptions made these lamps Christian.[9] The bust (Figs. 15 and 16) clearly is pagan. It may have been placed in the cave as part of a Roman burial ceremony. When the Christians (or Jews?) took over the cave they severed the head from the shoulders and smashed its face.

Roman and Byzantine Lamps

The excavations of Mugharet Abu Halimeh at Silet edh-Dhahr produced no less than 209 Roman and Byzantine lamps of different types. It is the purpose of this study to classify these lamps as far as possible chronologically, and to group them into different categories, at the same time giving detailed descriptions of the distinctive lamps. The owners of the cave alleged that they removed about sixty lamps at the time of their exploration; but it was deemed safer not to include them in this study.

Type I

Lamps of Type I occur at Samaria (S I, Fig. 190 V Ia and Pl. 81 f., where it is called Greek); at Gezer (G III, Pl. LXIX, 9; CI 8, 9; CXVI, 2, where it is among other Roman-Byzantine lamps; CLXXXIX, 1, where it is with "Arab pottery &c."); at Tell en-Nasbeh (TN II, p. 57, Pl. 72, No. 1648, where it is called " not Byzantine, but Hellenistic, Hellenistic-Roman, and Roman, i. e., 100 B. C. to 300 A. D."); at Beth She'arim (*Beth She'arim*, Pl. XLII, 2) by Maisler, who classes it as Herodian; against the North Wall of Jerusalem by Hamilton (QDAP X, p. 30, Fig. 14, No. 8), where the context indicates early 1st century A. D. FitzGerald (PEF *Annual*, 1927, p. 90, Pl. XVII, Nos. 3 and 4) calls the lamp, as found in the Tyropoeon Valley, of uncertain date and says it may have lasted into Byzantine times. Only lamps of this type were found in the 1st century tomb excavated by Sukenik in 1945 (AJA, LI, 1947, p. 359, Pl. LXXXV, A). He found these lamps also at Ramat Rachel and on Mount Scopus in 1st century context (*Journal of the Jewish Palestine Exploration Society*, 1934-35, pp. 24, 70, 72). Lamps of the same pattern were found at Corinth, where Broneer designated them Hellenistic (C, pp. 60, 157-8; Pl. VI, Nos. 296, 300).

These lamps are divided into Sub-type A (undecorated) and Sub-type B (decorated). Those of Sub-type B and No. 291 are mold-made, while the others are wheel-made. There is difference of opinion regarding the date of these lamps. Baramki holds that they are a 3rd century edition of the Herodian pattern. This may well be the case with No. 291 and Sub-type B seems post-Herodian. The others, however, are like the Herodian lamps found elsewhere. Maisler, who has seen the lamps as well as the photographs, pronounces them Herodian, i. e., 1st century A. D. Broneer agrees with this dating. It could be that Sub-type A is

[9] For an explanation of these decorations see *Bulletin* 122 (April, 1951), pp. 42-45.

1st century, Sub-type B 2nd century, and No. 291 a 3rd century local imitation.

Sub-type A

The lamps of Sub-type A, with the exception of No. 291, are wheel-made, circular in shape; the nozzle is bowed and protrudes from one end of the discus. Except for a thin bold ring around the feeder the lamps are devoid of decoration. All except No. 291 are without handles. There were six examples of this type.

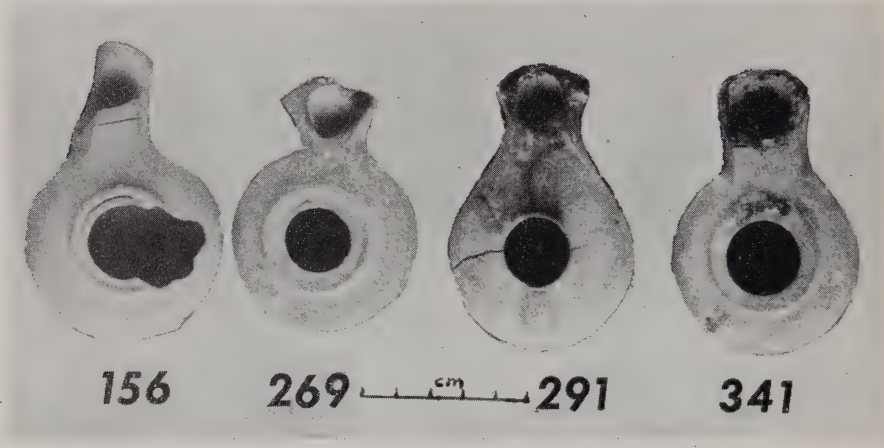

Fig. 33. Lamps of Type I, Sub-type A.

156. L. 9.1 cm.; w. 6.1 cm. Chamber A. Incised line below nozzle.
269. L. 7.7 cm.; w. 5.7 cm. Chamber C, Kok 2.
291. L. 8.7 cm.; w. 5.8 cm. Chamber B, Kok 10. No decoration. Only lamp of this group which is mold-made and has a handle (a small knob). Also the only one found in late context. Probably a local imitation of older lamps.
333 and 341 (Chamber A) and 365 (entrance to cave) similar to 269.

Sub-type B

Sub-type B resembles Sub-type A except that they are mold-made (apparently from the same mold), have a conical knob handle, and have a decorated discus. The decoration consists of a ring in the discus, interrupted by the handle, and flowers resembling bluebells with pistils showing in the middle. Lamps similar to these in shape but with other patterns in decoration were found at Dura-Europos (D-E IV, Part III, Pl. II, Fig. 7; pp. 15-16), where they were dated early 2nd century A. D.

Type II

The lamps belonging to Type II are circular in shape, with the nozzle protruding from one side of the discus. They are slightly curved on top; the middle of the discus is sunk and contains no feeder. The lamp was filled with oil through the wick hole. The middle of the discus is either plain or decorated with a rosette, swastika, bird, animal, or commonly with human beings in erotic postures. The decorated discus in every case has been deliberately broken, being inappropriate in an early Chris-

tian cemetery. Christians did not hesitate in putting religious symbols or representations of biblical persons on the disks of their lamps, as found all around the Mediterranean (Leclercq in *Dictionnaire d'Archéologie Chrétienne et de Liturgie,* Vol. VIII, Paris, 1927, cols. 1086-1221.) Designs on our lamps, however, must have been offensive; for the only unbroken disks that we found were undecorated. The lamps have no handles. They are made of pinkish buff ware and have a red slip. Five complete and one broken lamps of this type were discovered.

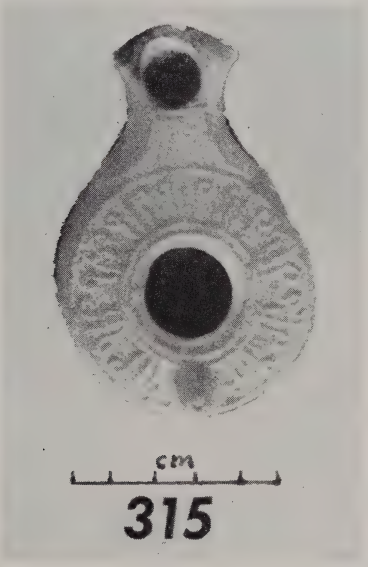

Fig. 34. Lamp of Type I, Sub-type B.

309 and 314 (complete), 315 (broken). L. 9.3 cm.; w. 6.3 cm. Upper atrium, Chamber C.

FitzGerald (PEF *Annual*, 1927, p. 90; Pl. XVII, Nos. 5-9 and 12-15) dates this type, as found at Ophel, as 3rd century A. D. It occurs also at Samaria (S I, p. 323, Fig. 197; II Pl. 81, No. 5); at Gezer (G III, Pl. CI, Nos. 1 and 5; Pl. CXCI, Nos. 15 and 16); at Tell en-Nasbeh (TN II, Pl. 72, No. 1652); at the North Wall of Jerusalem (QDAP X, p. 49; Fig. 23, Nos. 19 and 20); at Beit Nattîf (QDAP V, Pls. VI, XI); at Antioch on the Orontes (AO III, pp. 65, 76, Type 46, where it is dated 2nd-3rd century, possibly continuing into the 4th). Lamps of this shape at Corinth are dated Roman and Early Christian. They have small holes in their disks, whether plain or decorated (C, pp. 70-3, 167; Pl. X).

91. L. 7.6 cm.; w. 6.3 cm. Atrium, Chamber A. Middle of discus broken. Around discus a row of crescents based on a ring.

98. L. 8.5 cm.; w. 6.8 cm. Atrium, Chamber C. Outer ring around discus forms two spirals below nozzle. Middle of discus deliberately broken, but a man's leg shown faintly, indicating possibly why this part was intentionally broken. No slip. On the base of lamp letters ΡϹ in two incised concentric circles (Fig. 9, upper left corner). At Antioch on the Orontes were similar lamps with potter's marks on their bases. Those with two incised rings have Γ enclosed (AO III, p. 81, Fig. 88). They are dated middle of 3rd century.

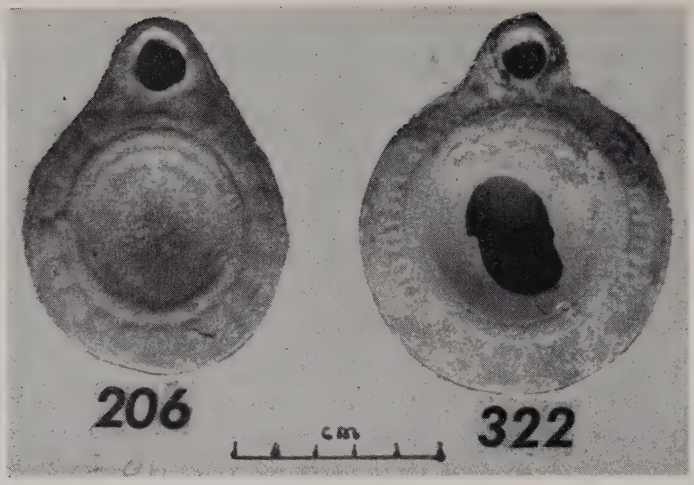

Fig. 35. Lamps of Type II.

206. L. 8.5 cm.; w. 6.8 cm. Center of cave. Middle of discus plain; around it a ring of squares in very low relief.
261. L. 8.7 cm.; w. 6.5 cm. Center of cave. Broken. Middle of discus decorated with a rosette; around discus faint hatching.
322. L. 9.0 cm.; w. 7.9 cm. Upper atrium, Chamber C. Middle of discus broken; around it a ring divided into segments.
327. L. 8.2 cm.; w. 6.8 cm. Chamber A. Middle of discus broken, but a human head remains near the top, indicating the former existence of an undesirable decoration.

Type III

There were one broken and ten whole lamps of Type III. They are made of a light pinkish buff ware with a reddish brown slip. In a few the slip is absent. The discus is circular in shape with a gradual tapering prolongation towards the nozzle. The length is about 7.5 cm. and the diameter 5.5 cm. The feeder is decorated with a thick, flat ring around the edge. The rest of the discus is either plain or decorated with a simple geometrical pattern. This type has no handle, and the space between the nozzle and the feeder is too small for any other decoration. It seems to be a later development of Type II and may be dated in the 3rd-4th centuries A. D.

Type IV

Type IV seems to be a variation of Type III. It occurs in numbers at Dura-Europos (D-E IV, Part III, pp. 32-4; Pl. V, Nos. 168, 175, 206). There lamps of this type are dated in the early 2nd century A. D. Ours may be that early, but they may extend into the 3rd or 4th century. Clearly they are pre-Byzantine. Dura fell in 256 A. D.

The lamps in this group are circular with protruding nozzles. They are not dissimilar from lamps of Types III and V; but, whereas the top part of these two types is slightly round, in Type IV the top part is flat or almost so. Moreover the decoration of this type is more varied. The lamps are made of pinkish buff or buff ware and have a small rudimentary handle. The type is represented by three complete and two broken lamps.

Fig. 36. Lamp of Type III.

14. Atrium, Chamber B. Discus decorated with faint arrow heads running closely around discus.
84, 87, 89, 96, 321. Atrium, Chamber A. Similar to 14, except that 89 has no slip, 96 has a series of circles around feeder, and 321 radial lines around feeder.
93. Silo 1. No slip.
105. Chamber A. Similar to 14.
188. Chamber B, east end. Radial lines around feeder.
220. Chamber B, Kok 9. Similar to 188.

Fig. 37. Lamps of Type IV.

85. L. 8.3 cm.; w. 6.1 cm. Atrium, Chamber A. Below nozzle a horizontal plain band. Four circles each enclosed in a ring of dots above, below, and on both sides of feeder. Between these, four semicircles of dots decorated with horizontal and vertical lines or blobs.
86. L. 8.8 cm.; w. 6.5 cm. Atrium, Chamber A. Entire surface decorated with dots. This was a popular pattern at Dura-Europos, where the dots as in our lamp were arranged in concentric circles. The dot pattern was found also at Corinth (C, p. 71; Pl. XIII, No. 1405).

92. L. 7.6 cm.; w. 5.8 cm. Atrium, Chamber A. Below nozzle a horizontal plain band. Between nozzle and feeder a wide V enclosing five circles. Remainder of discus divided into V's, each enclosing a circle.
97. L. 7.4 cm.; w. 5.6 cm. Chamber B. Between nozzle and feeder a square enclosing two rhombi of gradually increasing dimensions. In each corner of square a dot. Around feeder a ring with a row of dots.
107. Broken. Chamber A. Palm branch running around discus. Nozzle enclosed in a wreath.

Type V

Type V resembles Type III. The ring around the feeder is bolder and, whereas the lamps of Type III have no handles, the lamps in this group as in Type IV have rudimentary handles, in this case double. Broneer suggests that these handles represent a degenerate hinge. One complete lamp and the fragments of another are the only examples discovered of this type. It may be dated in the 4th or early 5th century A. D.

Fig. 38. Lamp of Type V.

83. L. 7.7 cm.; w. 6.2 cm. Atrium, Chamber A. No decoration other than ring around feeder.
229. Chamber C, Kok 10. Broken. Similar to 83.

Type VI

Examples of Type VI were found at Gezer in Tombs 8, 23, 36, and 99 (G III, Pl. LXIX, No. 7; Pl. XCII, Nos. 10-13, 16, 17. No. 16 is identical with our No. 312); at Tell en-Nasbeh (TN II, p. 56, D group; Pl. 72, No. 1655); and at El Jīsh (QDAP VIII, Pl. XXX, 1, b, c). Since they were found with objects belonging to the 4th century or earlier, it is safe to date this type as 4th or at the latest early 5th century A. D. Broneer says that this type started in Corinth as early as the 2nd or 3rd century.

There were three lamps of this type and a fragment of a fourth. The lamp is made of a light buff ware with a brownish slip. The discus is circular and the neck narrows down and then expands again at the nozzle, forming a bow. The length varies from 8.7 cm. (No. 312) to 7.8 cm. (No. 344); the width varies from 6.0 cm. to 5.1 cm. The handle is rudimentary and pyramidal in shape. The discus is decorated with a

geometrical pattern, which varies in each lamp. Another geometrical design, also varying in each lamp, decorates the space between nozzle and feeder.

2. W. 6.0 cm.; nozzle broken. Atrium, Chamber B. Discus decorated with a row of circles. On either side of handle a palm branch. Between nozzle and feeder a third palm branch followed by a row of circles and three lines of rope pattern.

260. W. 5.1 cm.; nozzle broken. Middle of cave. Only part of the decoration near the handle remains; it resembles No. 312.

Fig. 39. Lamps of Type VI.

312. L. 8.7 cm.; w. 5.8 cm. Atrium, Chamber C. Discus decorated with herringbone pattern, angles pointing toward handle. Row of dots around edge. Between nozzle and feeder a triangle formed by three bands, each enclosing a row of dots. At each angle a circle. Below the wick hole dots enclosed in circles.

344. L. 7.8 cm.; w. 5.1 cm. Chamber A, Kok 10. Discus decorated with herringbone pattern as in No. 312. Between nozzle and feeder representation of a tree with three branches on each side; above second branch a circle; at base of tree, on either side, a circle where palm branches sprout.

Type VII

Examples of Type VII occur at Samaria (S I, 324, Fig. 199 IV; II, Pl. 81, No. X); at Beit Fajjār (QDAP IV, Pl. LXXXVI, 2, No. 13). They seem to be contemporaneous with Type V, of which they may be a development, and so may be dated as 4th or early 5th century A. D. The lamps belonging to this type resemble those of Type VI, except that they do not narrow at the neck to the same extent. On the average they are larger. The handles are rudimentary and at the base they are shaped like a clumsy capital X. The designs are different. There is no slip of any kind over the lamp. The type is represented by eleven whole and two incomplete lamps.

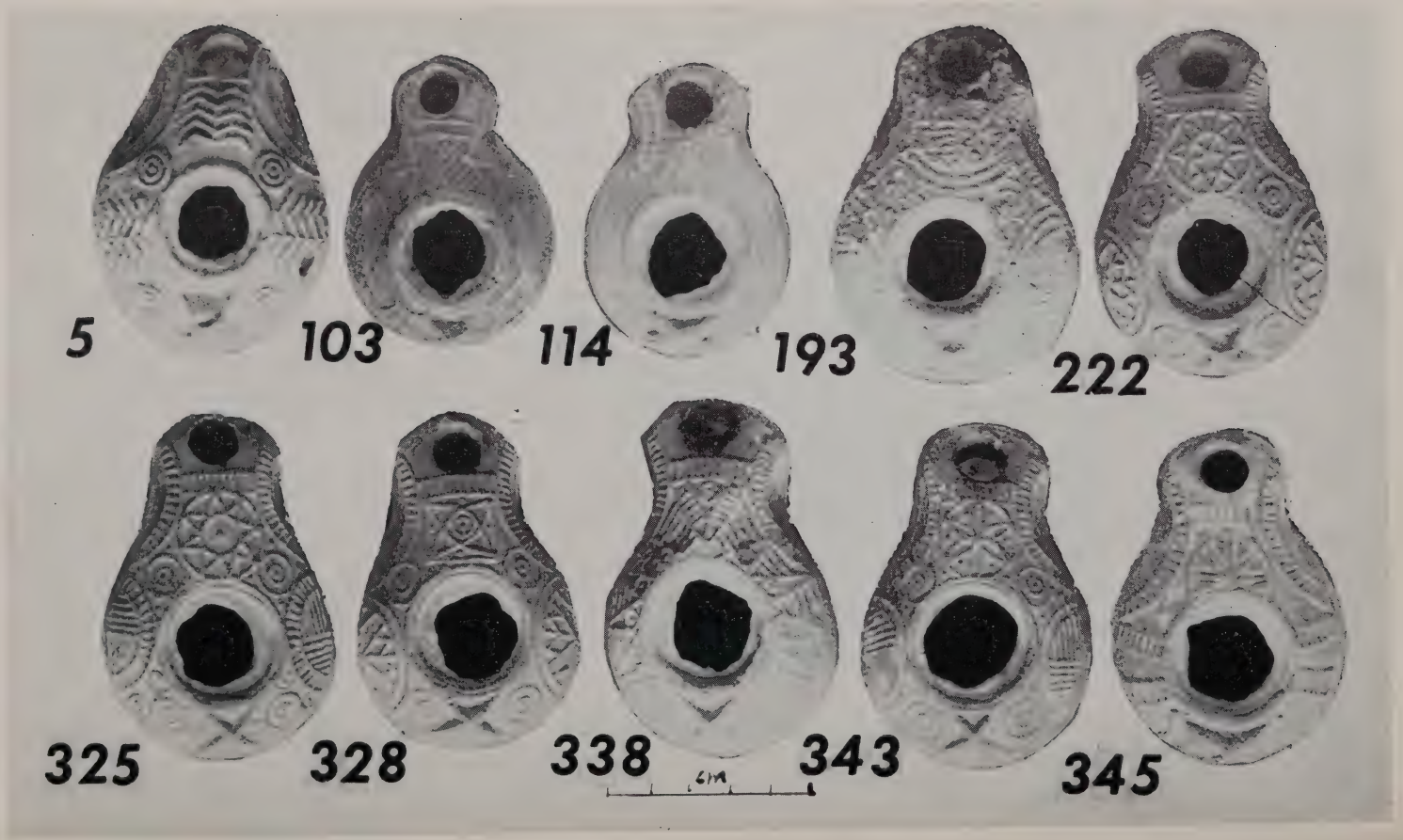

FIG. 40. Lamps of Type VII.

5. L. 8.4 cm.; w. 6.3 cm. Atrium, Chamber B. Horizontal line below nozzle; between this line and feeder a tree with ten branches enclosed in two ribbon bands, which curve outwards. Over the top of feeder two concentric circles on each side. Feeder flanked by a ten-branched tree on either side. On each side of handle two concentric circles.

103. L. 7.4 cm.; w. 5.3 cm. Atrium, Chamber A. Below nozzle a plain horizontal band. Between this and feeder a stylized tree. On both sides of discus a wavy line ending in a head like a cobra's. On each side of handle a rhombus with lines projecting from the corners.

104. L. 8.7 cm.; w. 6.0 cm. Silo 1. Decoration below nozzle, a horizontal band divided into segments. Between nozzle and feeder a band divided into segments. Below a large Capital X with the top and bottom parts well filled; on either side of it two square objects attached at the crossing outwards and divided into segments. On the right two bunches of grapes attached to a stalk. On the left side a circle divided by horizontal lines into segments, followed by a large quadrilateral and a small rectangle placed obliquely. Only top of the lamp found.

114. L. 7.4 cm.; w. 5.3 cm. Chamber B. Below nozzle a horizontal band divided into segments. Between nozzle and feeder a rectangle containing nine smaller geometrical motifs arranged in three rows, flanked on either side by a curved band divided into segments. Around feeder a band interrupted by handle and decorated with the same geometrical motifs as the design between nozzle and feeder.

193. L. 8.8 cm.; w. 6.8 cm. Chamber B, east end. Incrustation of lime. Between nozzle and feeder a rectangle divided into smaller rectangles and resting on a band curving upwards; this rectangle flanked on either side by a band curving outwards and divided into segments. On either side of feeder a plain semicircular band decorated with four horizontal and four vertical lines. Two concentric circles, on either side of handle.

222. L. 8.7 cm.; w. 6.1 cm. Chamber A. Below nozzle a horizontal band divided into segments. Between nozzle and feeder a circle divided radially into five segments, enclosed in a large circle. Ring between two circles decorated with a row of triangles based on the inner circle. On each side of neck a band curving outwards divided into segments. At each corner of the feeder two concentric circles. Sides of discus decorated with a semicircular ring enclosing a geometrical pattern.

325. L. 8.7 cm.; w. 6.1 cm. Chamber A. Similar to 222, except that the inner circle between nozzle and feeder is plain. The two semicircles along the sides are divided by five vertical and five horizontal lines. Each of the concentric circles near the handle is surrounded by three smaller circles.

328. L. 8.3 cm.; w. 5.8 cm. Chamber A. Similar to 222, except that between nozzle and feeder there is a square, enclosing a design made by four arcs drawn diagonally across the corners and enclosing a circle at their point of intersection.

338. L. 7.6 cm.; w. 5.7 cm. Chamber A. Below nozzle a horizontal band divided into segments; between nozzle and feeder a letter V formed by two bands divided into segments. Around feeder a row of triangles based on edge of discus, divided by horizontal lines, with a row of circles between the apexes.

343. L. 8.3 cm.; w. 5.9 cm. Chamber C, Kok 10. Usual bands below nozzle and along sides. Between nozzle and feeder a flower consisting of a circle divided by arcs, thus forming six petals. In each corner around the feeder concentric circles. Along either side of feeder a semicircle divided as in 325.

345. L. 8.5 cm.; w. 5.9 cm. Chamber A, Kok 10. Usual bands below nozzle and along sides; between nozzle and feeder a circular flower.

353. Rear fragment of a lamp. Chamber A, Kok 6. Near handle a half ring enclosing geometrical patterns.

Type VIII

Type VIII seems to be like a broken lamp found at Beit Fajjār (QDAP IV, Pl. LXXXVI, 2, No. 7) and is similar to one found at Gezer (G III, Pl. LXIX, No. 6) except that the Gezer lamp has no handle. Apparently this type is contemporaneous with Types VI and VII and so may be dated 4th or early 5th century A. D. Lamps of this group resemble those of Type VI, but they are larger and have ring handles. The decoration is more simple. The type is represented by two complete and one broken lamps.

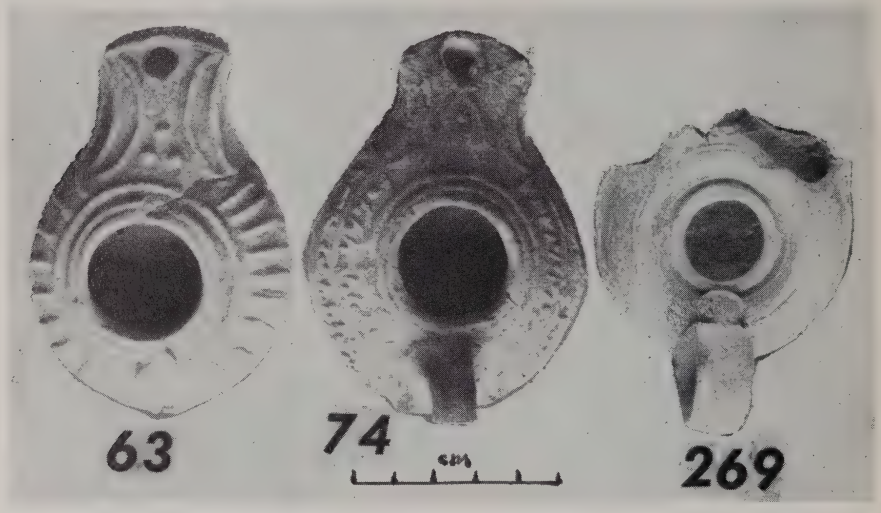

Fig. 41. Lamps of Type VIII.

63. L. 9.9 cm.; w. 6.9 cm. Atrium, Chamber B. Handle broken. Between nozzle and feeder three dots arranged in a triangle, flanked by two plain ribbon bands opening outwards. Around feeder three rings followed by a row of strokes extending to the edge.

74. L. 9.7 cm.; w. 7.1 cm. Atrium, Chamber B. Between nozzle and feeder a triangle with a dot in the middle, flanked by two plain ribbon bands curving outwards. Around feeder three rings followed by two rows of alternating upright strokes and dots.

269. L. 7.7 cm.; w. 6.6 cm. Chamber A. Forepart broken. Rings around feeder. White ware. No other decoration.

Type IX

Lamps of Type IX are in some private collections. Three were found at Gezer (G III, Pl. LXII, No. 11; Pl. CI a, No. 11; Pl. CV, No. 28) with 4th-6th century lamps. Similar lamps were found at Tell Sandaḥannah (EP, p. 129; Pl. 62, Nos. 1 and 2, where they are called Seleucidian). Galling (*Zeitschrift des deutschen Palästina-Vereins*, Vol. xlvi, p. 15) consequently dated this type 3rd century B. C.-1st century A. D. At Dura-Europos were found thirty unglazed and nineteen glazed lamps somewhat like ours in that they were wheel-made and with the spout handmade and attached before firing. They are called Mesopotamian and presumed to have come in with the Parthian conquest in

the late 2nd century B. C., after which they were made locally. They do not, however, have the typical Roman-Byzantine ribbing as do our lamps, which can hardly be earlier than the 4th century A. D.

Fig. 42. Lamps of Type IX.

Lamps of this type are boot-shaped in profile and have a large ear handle. There is coarse ribbing. The nozzle projects from the end of the lamp opposite the handle and tapers from the base to the wick hole. The material is gray or red clay. Three examples of this type were found.

108. L. 9.2 cm.; diam. 6.9 cm.; ht. 5.1 cm. Chamber B.
208. L. 8.9 cm.; diam. 6.8 cm.; ht. 5.5 cm. Chamber B, west end.
399. L. 7.6 cm.; diam. 5.7 cm.; ht. 3.8 cm. Chamber A. Handle broken.

Type X

Lamps of Type X occur at Samaria (S I, p. 324, Fig. 200 V, 1 f.; II, Pl. 81, No. Z) and at Beit Fajjār (QDAP IV, LXXXVI 2, No. 3). They are similar in shape to Type III; but they have handles (c. 2.3 cm wide and 1.3 cm. long), varied decorations, and narrower feeders. Except for the handle pattern they also bear a similarity to Type XII. They are made of pinkish, reddish, or grayish buff ware. The handles are decorated with vertical bands. There were four examples of this type. Their date may well be 4th-6th century A. D.

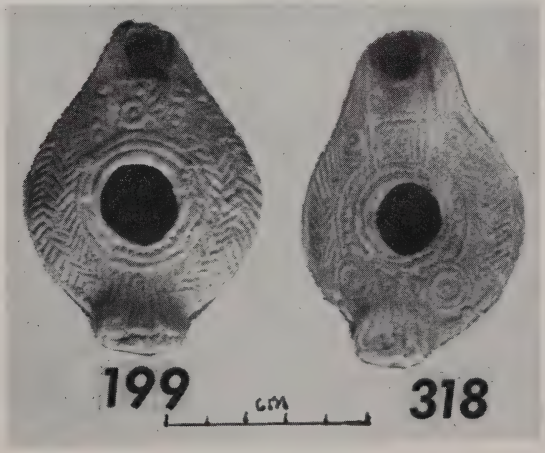

Fig. 43. Lamps of Type X.

199. L. 8.4 cm.; w. 6.0 cm. Chamber B, east end. Between nozzle and feeder a cross formed by four triangles placed apex to apex and intersected in the middle of a circle. In the top triangle a dot; on each side of the cross a row of dots. Three concentric circles around feeder. Herringbone decoration around discus.

213. L. 8.9 cm.; w. 6.0 cm. Chamber B, west end. Between nozzle and feeder a square with a small triangle in each corner and a circle in the middle. Discus decorated with a ring of circles.

318. L. 8.5 cm.; w. 5.7 cm. Chamber A. Decoration between nozzle and feeder a square formed by four thin bands enclosing two small squares; the inner square (which is not clear) tilted 45 degrees. Around feeder a ring of dots. On each side of discus herringbone decoration ending in a circle at the top. On each side of handle two concentric circles.

320. L. 8.2 cm.; w. 5.9 cm. Upper atrium, Chamber C. Between nozzle and feeder face worn off. Around feeder a ring of dots followed by a ring of circles, the circle next but one to the handle consisting of two concentric circles. Herringbone decoration along edge of discus.

Type XI

In shape Type XI resembles Type VIII and it also has a ring handle. It has on the neck a crude "candlestick" decoration, which would suggest a later date, 5th-6th century A. D. It differs from Type XV in that the neck opens out near the nozzle and it has a ring handle. This type is represented by only two examples.

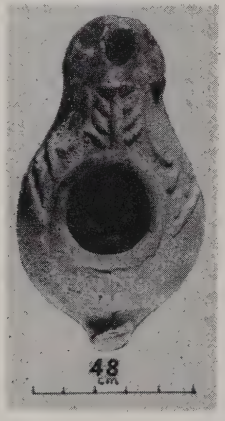

Fig. 44. Lamp of Type XI.

48. L. 10.1 cm.; w. 5.9 cm. Atrium, Chamber B. Handle broken. Between nozzle and feeder a candlestick shaped like a capital T with six branches. Sides of discus decorated with oblique band with three leaves in each band. On each side of candlestick a curved band.

175. L. 10.8 cm.; w. 6.7 cm. Chamber B, east end. Most of top broken. Between nozzle and feeder a seven branched candlestick.

Type XII

Lamps belonging to Type XII are circular in shape with the nozzle projecting from one end and a large trefoil handle from the other. Some handles have a small circular ring below so that they could be suspended. Others have a lug or a flat under side. The feeder is small (2.0 cm. in

diameter) and the discus flat. The material is pinkish or reddish buff ware. The decorations consist of spirals and geometric pattern. Below the nozzle are two adjacent figures of 8 made of spirals. On either side of the feeder are two spirals flanked by two squares divided into lozenges. The middle leaf of the trefoil handle is decorated with a stylized tree when the spirals face upward. When the spirals face downward they begin in the middle leaf of the handle. All our seven lamps of this type were found in Chamber B, 227 in Kok 2, the others in the middle of the chamber. The lamps seem to have come from one mold with the variations showing only in the handles, which were separately molded and attached. Apparently this lamp is not common. The type is not shown in the exhaustive article " Lampes " by Leclercq in *Dictionnaire d'Archéologie Chrétienne et de Liturgie*, Vol. VIII, cols. 1086-122. The length is 11.5 cm. and the width 6.5 cm., with slight variations. Tentatively a date in the 5th-6th centuries A. D. is suggested.

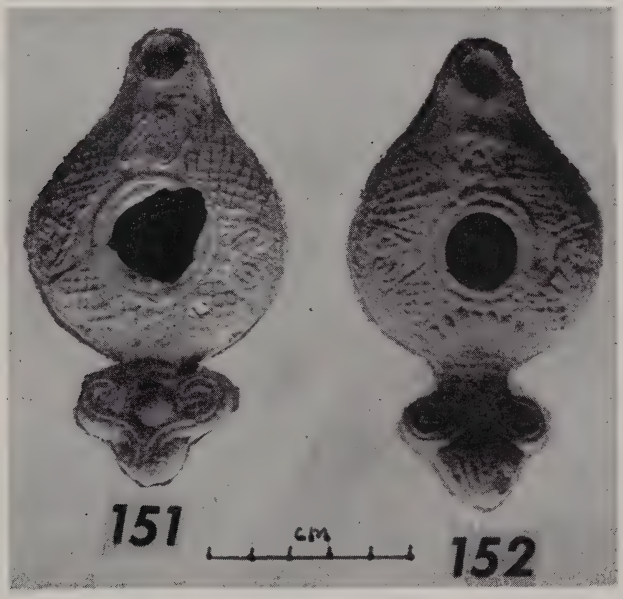

Fig. 45. Lamps of Type XII.

138, 139, 152, 173, 227 have spirals facing downward. 151, 153 have spirals facing upward. 152 has a necklace of oblong beads between handle and discus. If this decoration was on other lamps it was covered by clay when the handles were attached.

Type XIII

The bulk of examples of Type XIII was found in the atrium and interior of Chamber B, which we have every reason to believe was the latest of our three chambers. There were, however, as many as seven inside Chamber A and ten in the upper part of the atrium of Chamber B. The explanation of their presence in Chamber A would be that this chamber was reused for later burials. Lamps of this type were found in good numbers at Samaria (S I, p. 325; Figs. 200, 201; II, Pl. 81, Nos. y,

z, and aa, where they are classed as Late Roman and Byzantine); at Gezer (G III, Pl. CIa, Nos. 6, 8); at Tell en-Nasbeh (TN II, Pl. 73, No. 1675); at El Bassa (QDAP III, p. 85, Figs. 5, 6); at El Jīsh (QDAP VIII, Pl. XXV, 1, a); and at Corinth (C, Pl. XXIII). These lamps appear in largest numbers where lamps of Type XV preponderate. They may be placed in 4th-6th centuries A. D.

There were forty examples of this type. They are made of buff or pinkish buff ware. There is no neck between the discus and the nozzle, but the lamp tapers gently from the discus to the wide nozzle. The handle is fairly large and can be held between the fingers. The feeder has a relatively small circular opening and the wick hole is only a third of the width of the nozzle. The length varies from 10.7 cm. (No. 11) to 8.5 cm. (No. 100); the width varies from 6.7 cm. to 5.9 cm. at the feeder and from 3.5 cm. to 2.5 cm. at the nozzle. The handle generally is 1.5 cm. long and 2.0 cm. wide at the base. Between the feeder and the wick hole there is an undecorated groove generally 0.3 cm. deep. On both sides of the groove there are usually two curved bands divided into segments by horizontal lines, though some lamps show variations from this rule. Around the feeder the decoration varies. Either it is rows of vertical and horizontal lines or bands similar to those near the groove or series of circles.

Though these lamps may be divided into sub-groups according to general characteristics, there was only one case (264 and 265) where it would appear that two lamps came from the same mold. They were well distributed throughout the cave.

Upper cave, SW corner over debris: 3. Atrium, Chamber A: 81. Chamber A: 166, 212, 305, 331, 334, (Kok 1) 347, (Kok 8) 349. Atrium, Chamber B: 4, 6, 11, 13, 20, 44, 51, 71. Chamber B: 100, 112, 119, 150, 161, 162, 172, 179, 202, 204, 210, 217, (Kok 9) 264 and 265. Upper atrium, Chamber C: 88, 300, 303, 307, 308, 311, 313, 316, 317.

3, 44, 119, 179, 210. Decoration indistinct.

4. L. 9.4 cm.; w. 6.0 cm. Usual bands on sides of groove. Around feeder two concentric circles. At back of lamp lines from outer circle to perimeter. Handle broken.

166, 172, 202, 204, 212, 217, 264, 265, 349. Similar to 4.

6. L. 9.2 cm.; w. 5.5 cm. On each side of groove a palm branch sprouting from a circle. Around feeder a band divided into segments by radical lines. Around band a crisscross pattern. Handle decorated with vertical lines, each ending in a circle.

5. Similar to 6.

11. L. 10.7 cm.; w. 6.0 cm. On either side of groove a six branched tree with top at perimeter. Similar tree on either side of handle. On either side of feeder a row of dots between trees. Two concentric circles around discus, which seems once to have been closed but now is broken.

300, 303, 318. Similar to 11.

13. L. 9.0 cm.; w. 5.9 cm. Bands on either side of groove and followed by similar bands reaching to handle. Over handle two concentric circles (in the photograph too faint to be seen).

100, 112, 162. Similar to 13, but with variations.

307. Same decoration as that on 13, but lamp is larger (L. 10.0 cm.; w. 6.6 cm.).

20. L. 10.6 cm.; w. 6.0 cm. Bands on sides of groove followed by similar bands reaching to handle.

311, 313, 317, 331, 347. Similar to 20, though bands beside groove are more curved.

71. L. 9.7 cm.; w. 6.0 cm. Between bands on either side three dots, on right in a

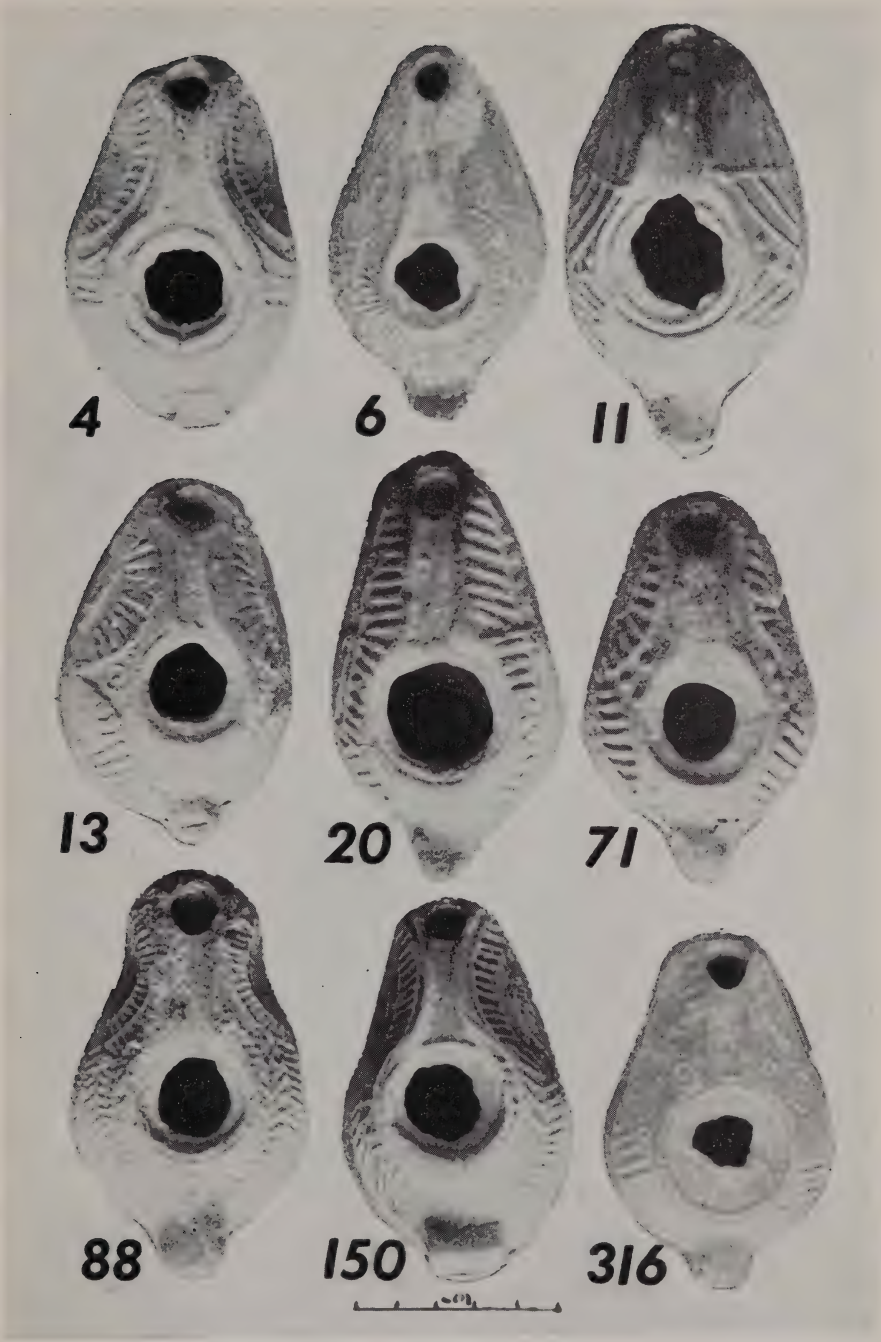

Fig. 46. Lamps of Type XIII.

line, on left in a rt. triangle. Over handle two rows of four dots each (too faint to be seen in photograph).

81, 161. Similar to 71.

88. L. 9.8 cm.; w. 6.1 cm. On either side of feeder herringbone decoration with 22 branches.

150. L. 9.4 cm.; w. 5.9 cm. Herringbone around feeder.

305. Similar to 150, but smaller (L. 8.3 cm.; w. 5.3 cm.).

316. L. 9.2 cm.; w. 6.2 cm. Over each band at the side of the groove is a circle and at the end of the band two concentric circles and a similar circle. Around feeder a band with three horizontal lines followed by six vertical lines. On either side of handle two indistinct concentric circles. The discus seems to have been filled and the feeder made by breaking the center.

334. L. 8.8 cm.; w. 6.2 cm. Band on either side of groove contains a palm branch, outside of which at the base is a circle. On either side of feeder two ladders forming a V, opening outward, with a line through the center and a circle formed by the line and each ladder.

Type XIV

In general appearance Type XIV resembles Type XIII, except that there is no groove between the feeder and the wick hole. The material is pinkish or reddish buff ware. Molds are crudely cut. Designs are geometrical or floral motifs. The type is represented by three complete and one broken lamps. As a variation or deterioration from Type XIII it may be placed in 5th-6th centuries A. D. The first three were found in atrium, Chamber B; 302 in atrium, Chamber C.

8. L. 8.9 cm.; w. 6.5 cm. Between nozzle and feeder a tree placed between oblique bands divided into segments. Two plain bands curving outward between these bands and edge of lamp. On each side of feeder two palm branches with bases at edge, separated by a design like a large capital A. Handle enclosed in a ribbon divided into segments.

Fig. 47. Lamp of Type XIV.

62. L. 10.7 cm.; w. 7.6 cm. Decoration indistinct. Between nozzle and feeder, along left side, a ribbon band with a row of dots and a row of radial lines.

65. L. 9.0 cm.; w. 6.4 cm. Badly broken.

302. L. 9.7 cm.; w. 5.8 cm. Between nozzle and feeder a circle followed by a semicircular band lined with dots on the inside. Along each side two ribbon bands divided into segments separated by a circle.

Type XV

Lamps of Type XV abound in Palestine. Though they appear elsewhere around the Mediterranean, their greatest popularity was in the Holy Land. Apparently none of these lamps was found at Samaria; but they have been found in various other excavations as well as in casual explorations by private individuals. They occur at Gezer (G III, Pl. LXIX, Nos. 1-3; Pl. CI, Nos. 4, 6, 16; Pl. CIa, No. 12; Pl. CIV, Nos. 1-3; Pl. CV, Nos. 26, 27); at Tell en-Nasbeh (TN II, Pls. 72, 73, Nos. 1659-1673); at 'Ain Yabrūd (QDAP VI, Pls. VII, VIII); at El Bassa (QDAP III, pp. 86, 87); at Beit Fajjār (QDAP IV, p. 174, Pl. LXXXVI, 2). FitzGerald (PEF *Annual*, 1927, p. 92; Pl. XVII, Nos. 25-35) dates them in the 6th century A. D., and doubtless this is correct for most of the lamps. From the evidence at 'Ain Yabrūd, El Bassa, and Beit Fajjār, however, it seems that this type was produced as early as the 4th century A. D.

Ninety-eight of the lamps which we discovered belong to this type. They are made of buff, pinkish buff, and more rarely grayish buff ware. They have no handles. The back part is approximately semicircular in shape, with the diameter running across the middle of the feeder; from there the other half is elongated and the sides taper gently towards the relatively narrow nozzle. The discus is generally decorated with bold strokes. Between the nozzle and the feeder the lamp generally is decorated with bold strokes. Between the nozzle and the feeder the lamp generally is decorated with a seven branched candlestick, occasionally with a nine branched candlestick or a cross. The rear end of the lamp is either plain or decorated with a pearl, a stroke, a triangle, a crescent, a circle, or some other geometrical design. Some lamps, in place of the usual strokes around the discus, are inscribed with the Greek phrase ΦΩC ΧΥ ΦΕΝΙ ΠΑCΙΝ ΚΑΛΗ, "The light of Christ shines for all—(?)" or mutilations of the same.[10]

The candlestick shows variations. It seems to have been at first a menorah, with tripod base, the most popular Jewish emblem in the first centuries of the present era. But the design was taken over by Christians, who left off the tripod, allowed the menorah to develop into a palm branch, and even put the Christian motto, though generally mutilated, on the same lamp.[11] Apparently early Christians had no scruples about using Jewish and Christian emblems together, as today at least two theological seminaries have both the menorah and the cross on their seals. In the museum of the American University of Beirut is a lamp with candlestick on a tripod and a handle in the shape of a cross with a small cross on each of its arms (Dorothy Mackey, *A Guide to the Archaeological Collections in the University Museum*, Beirut, 1951, Pl. XI, 3).

Our lamps are of two sizes. Most of them measure about 10.0 cm. in length and 7.0 cm. in width, the remainder about 8.0 cm. in length and 5.0 cm. in width. To save endless repetition certain lamps will be taken

[10] For a thorough discussion of the inscription, see Edgar R. Smothers (*Traditio*, Vol. V, pp. 46-49), who takes ΚΑΛΗ to mean "Fine lamp"—the most plausible interpretation yet presented.

[11] For this development, see *Bulletin* 122 (April, 1951), pp. 42-45.

as standard and only variation from their decorations will be described. The most popular design is shown in No. 9 (Fig. 48).

For convenience this group will be divided into sub-groups, XV A and XV B. Sub-type A will comprise the larger lamps and Sub-type B the smaller.

Sub-Type XV A

No. 9. L. 9.8 cm.; w. 6.9 cm. Atrium, Chamber B. Two rings around feeder. From the outer ring sprouts a seven branched candlestick, the top branch developing into a ring around the wick hole. The remainder of the lamp decorated with strokes radiating from feeder, but not touching rings around it. Rear of lamp plain.

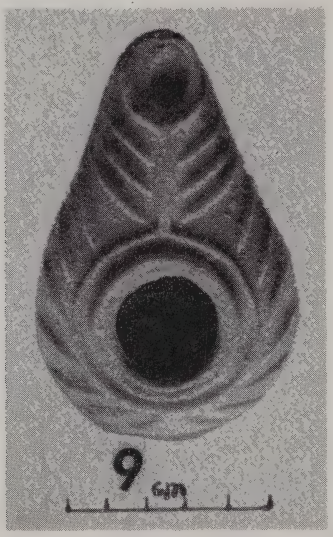

FIG. 48. Lamp of Type XV, Sub-type A. This was the most popular pattern among the "candlestick" lamps.

Identical with 9, though varying slightly in dimensions, were 10, 15, 16, 18, 26, 37, 39, 58, 62, found in atrium, Chamber B; 154, 158, 163, 178, 187, 194, 196, 197, found in Chamber B, east end.

195. Chamber B, east end. Similar to 9; but, in place of the seven branched candlestick, there is a Byzantine cross with the ends of the arms opening like a broad V (Fig. 54).

Similar to 9, except that the rear end of the lamp is decorated with a dot (Fig. 49) are 19, 21, 31, 33, 34, 35, 36, 59, found in atrium, Chamber B; 157, 174, 181, 198, 200, 201, found in Chamber B, east end; 207, 214, found in Chamber B, west end; 223, found in Chamber B, Kok 2; 337, found in Chamber A.

205. Decoration like that in Fig. 49, but candlestick has nine branches.

Distinguished by a vertical stroke at the rear are 12, 23, 30, 32, found in atrium, Chamber B; 115, 116, 177, 186, found in Chamber B; 232, found in Chamber B, Kok 5; 319, found in upper atrium, Chamber C. The candlestick in 12 and 319 is like that in Fig. 49. On 23, 30, 32, 177, and 186 the candlestick has a tripod and the branches are curved (Figs. 50, 53). On 155 the legs of the tripod are straight (Fig. 53). On 116, 232, and 319 there is a dot on each side of the vertical stroke.

FIG. 49. The distinctive feature is the dot at the rear.

FIG. 50. The candlestick is on a tripod and there is a vertical stroke at the rear.

FIG. 51. There is a dot on each side of the vertical stroke.

In the same category, but with slight variations are 17, 27, 42, 50, 60, found in atrium, Chamber B; 99, 111, found in Chamber B; 122 found in upper atrium, Chamber C. In 17, 42, and 43 the stalk of the candlestick does not meet the branches (Fig. 53). Decorations at the rear vary: 122, 3 dots in triangle; 60, 3 dots in row (Fig. 52); 27, circle; 99, stroke and loop (Fig. 52); 42 and 43, plain stroke; 111, garland. Nine branches are shown in the candlestick on 99 and 111 (Fig. 52).

203. Chamber B, east end. Like 99, stroke and loop at rear; but instead of candlestick there is a Byzantine cross.

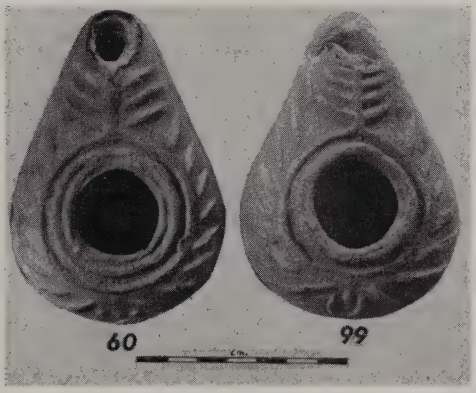

FIG. 52. No. 60 has three dots in a row at the base. No. 99 has nine branches in the candlestick and a loop around the vertical stroke in the rear.

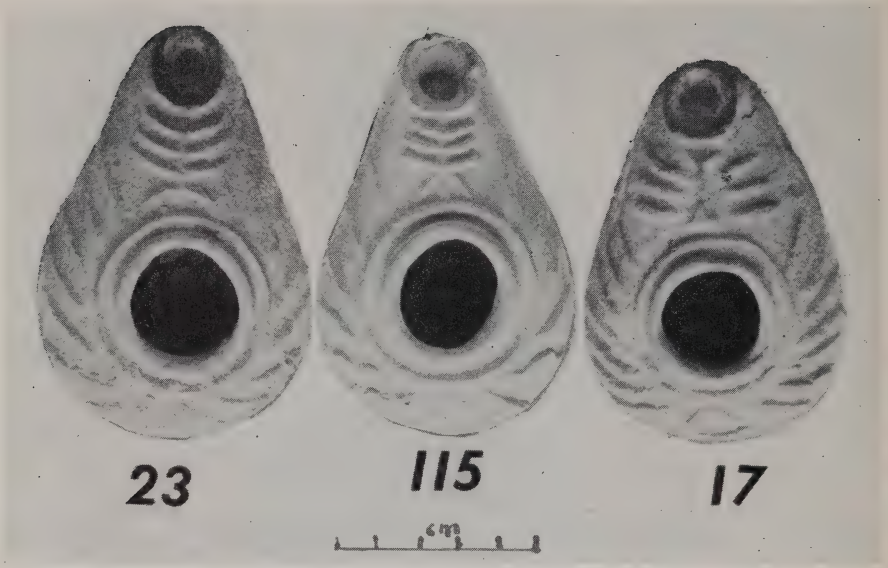

FIG. 53. No. 23 has a tripod with curved legs. Legs and branches of No. 115 are straight lines. In No. 17 the branches do not meet the stalk and there is a triangle at the rear.

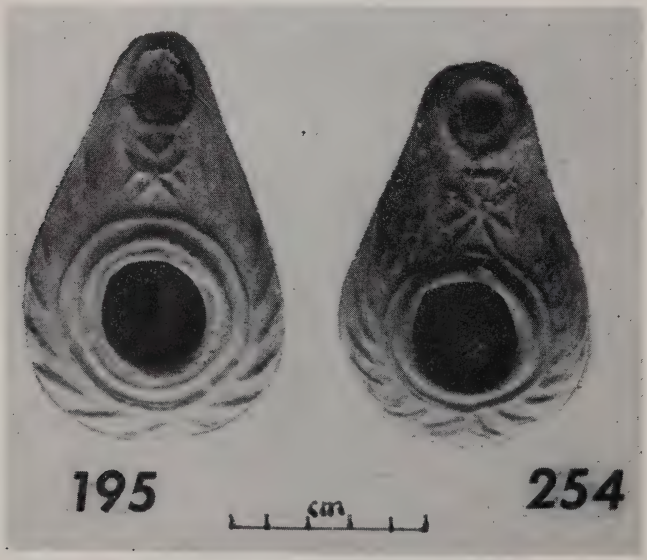

FIG. 54. Lamps with cross decoration.

Fig. 55. Lamp with "animal head" decoration.

One group of four shows a variation in that lines enclose the candlestick, curving in below the lower branches and forming semicircles with dots in center. The design resembles an animal head, with dots representing the eyes and the wick hole the snout. Our examples come from Chamber B—28 and 180 from the interior, 38 and 41 from the atrium. Lengths vary from 9.1 cm. to 10.5 cm. and widths from 6.5 cm. to 6.8 cm. Lines resembling figure 8's run around the discus. At the rear 28 and 41 have a dot flanked by a horizontal stroke on either side; 38 has three dots; 180 three vertical strokes. (Fig. 55. The same design is shown in G III, Pl. LXLX, No. 1; Pl. CXVII, No. 14; PEF *Annual*, 1927, Pl. XVII, No. 35.)

Five lamps showing Greek letters are described below.

79. Fragment of rear end of lamp. W. 7.1 cm. Atrium, Chamber B. Seven branched candlestick on nozzle. Around discus the Greek letters ωC XY ΦЄNI ωΔCI, a mutilation of the phrase ΦωC XY ΦЄNI ΠACIN.

184. L. 10.3 cm.; w. 6.7 cm. Chamber B, east end. Nine branched candlestick. A poor imitation of the Greek motto, evidently reading from right to left. Possibly the nine branches mark a transition to the palm branch (Fig. 56).

185. L. 10.2 cm.; w. 6.6 cm. Chamber B, east end. Similar to 184, with a mutilation of the Greek motto and nine branched candlestick.

209. L. 10.2 cm.; w. 6.6 cm. Chamber B, west end. Similar to 184, but with seven branched candlestick and a slightly better attempt at the Greek motto (Fig. 56).

215. L. 10.2 cm.; w. 6.6 cm. Chamber B, west end. Instead of candlestick a Byzantine cross among four dots. Three rings around feeder, the outside one extending to nozzle and forming a groove. Broken on left side. The lamp is well made and the Greek inscription clear: ΦωC XY ΦЄNI ΠT...KAΛH. As is general in this inscription the Λ is inverted. The inscription reads from left to right (Fig. 56).

FIG. 56. Lamps showing a Christian motto. The candlestick of No. 184 has nine branches and the motto is a poor imitation of the one with clear and correct lettering on No. 215. The lettering on No. 209 also is bad.

Sub-Type XV B

Patterns are much like those of Sub-type XV A. We find the seven branched candlestick with no decoration at the rear (75, 183), with a dot (47, 68, 234, 250), with a vertical stroke (67), with three dots forming a triangle (211), and with a rhombus enclosing a dot (171, 306—Fig. 58). One (7) has nine branches and another (70) five (Fig. 57).

On 52 (Fig. 57) and 113 the nine branches end in loops, with the wick hole as the top loop. The lower right branch is badly molded. At the rear is a figure 8 formed by two triangles. This lamp occurs also at Gezer (G III, Pl. CXVII, No. 131).

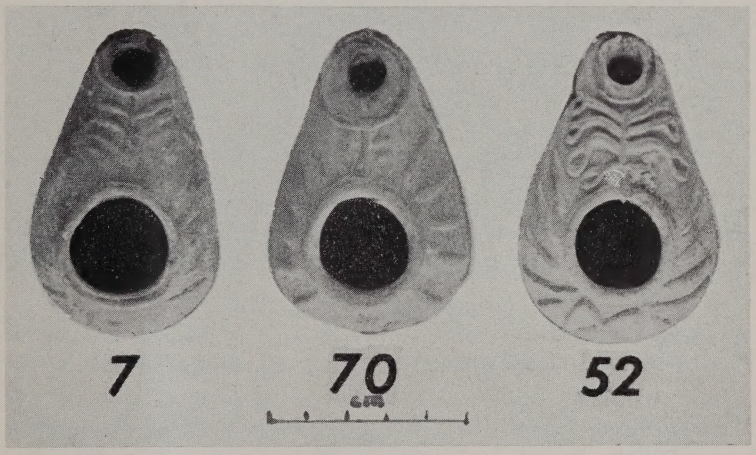

Fig. 57. Lamps of Sub-type XV B. They show faulty moulding.

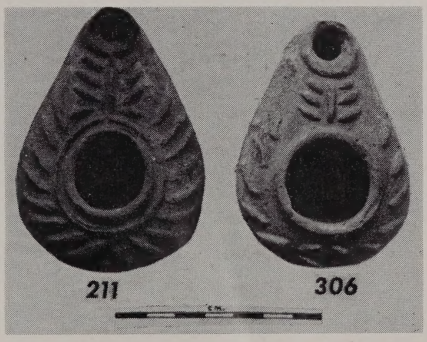

Fig. 58. Lamps of Sub-type XV B. No. 211 has a tripod below the candlestick and three dots in triangular form at the rear. No. 306 has a rhombus at the rear.

The cross decoration also is frequent. The Byzantine cross as in 195 (Fig. 54), occurs with no decoration at the rear on 249; on 40, 57, 296, 304, and 323 with a dot; on 165 with two vertical strokes; on 69 (Fig. 59), 77, and 78 with a circle; on 329 with a letter Theta.

On 43 the cross is made by four triangles (Fig. 59) and the discus decoration consists of loops.

On 73 the cross is formed by four L's; around the feeder are seven crescents opening inward and along the edges ten crescents opening outward (Fig. 59).

Untyped Lamps

In addition to the fifteen types described above there were four other complete lamps and fragments of five multi-nozzled lamps.

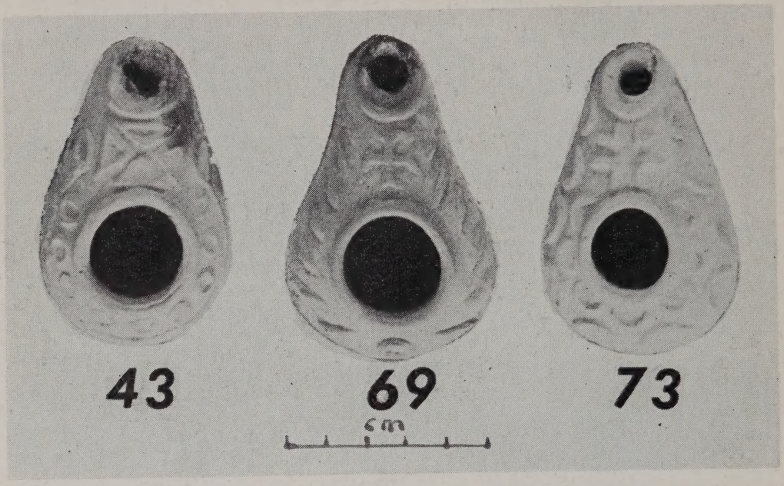

Fig. 59. Lamps of Sub-type XV B, with cross decoration.

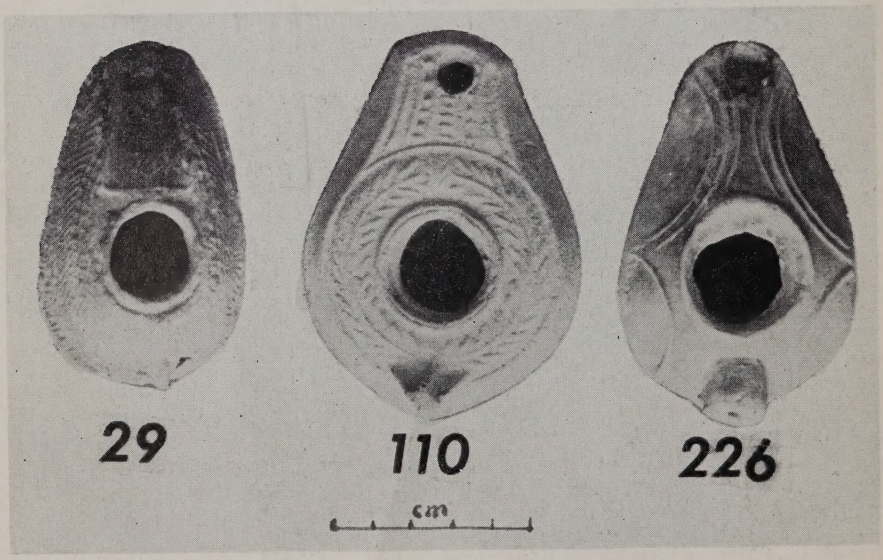

Fig. 60. Untyped lamps.

29. L. 8.3 cm.; w. 5.5 cm. Atrium, Chamber B. Wide, shallow groove between nozzle and feeder. Herringbone decoration along entire length. This lamp may be Arabic.

110. L. 9.7 cm.; w. 7.2 cm. Chamber B. Flat top. Herringbone decoration (or wreath of palm branches) around discus. Between nozzle and wreath five short horizontal strokes flanked by two upright bands decorated with dots,

followed by plain curved band. Three pronged handle. The decoration has resemblances to Type VI (Fig. 39), but the shape is more like No. 5, Type VII (Fig. 40).

226. L. 9.4 cm.; w. 6.0 cm. Chamber B, Kok 2. This lamp resembles Type XV in form only. It has a handle and a brown slip. Two adjacent ribbon bands curving outward between nozzle and feeder on each side. Single curved line between the handle and the two bands.

301. L. 10.5 cm.; w. 6.7 cm. Upper atrium, Chamber C. An Arab lamp, shaped like a shoe with elevated groove between nozzle and feeder. Stylized trees on either side of groove. Triangles, dots, and upright strokes. Handle.

The five fragments described below were found in Chamber B.

FIG. 61. Fragments of five multi-nozzled lamps.

19. Two parts of bases of multi-nozzled lamps, buff, one decorated with concentric circles, the other with two circles enclosing a rosette. The complete lamps would have resembled the one shown in Fig. 62.

189. Back of triangular lamp with a nozzle on each corner (cf. EP, Pl. 63, No. 14).

218. Fragments of nozzles of two lamps similar to the one shown in Fig. 62. Such lamps are fairly common (e.g., PEF *Annual*, 1927, Pl. XVII, No. 40; G III, Pl. CIa, Nos. 15 and 16).

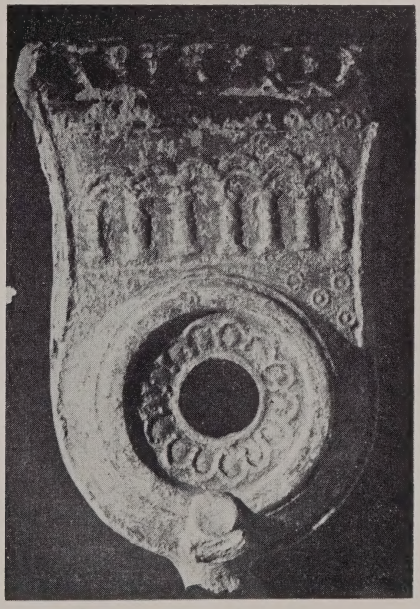

FIG. 62. A multi-nozzled lamp not from the excavation, claimed by the owners to have been found in their earlier exploration.